Black

Jack

Osamu

Tezuka

VOLUME NO. 4

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VERTICAL.

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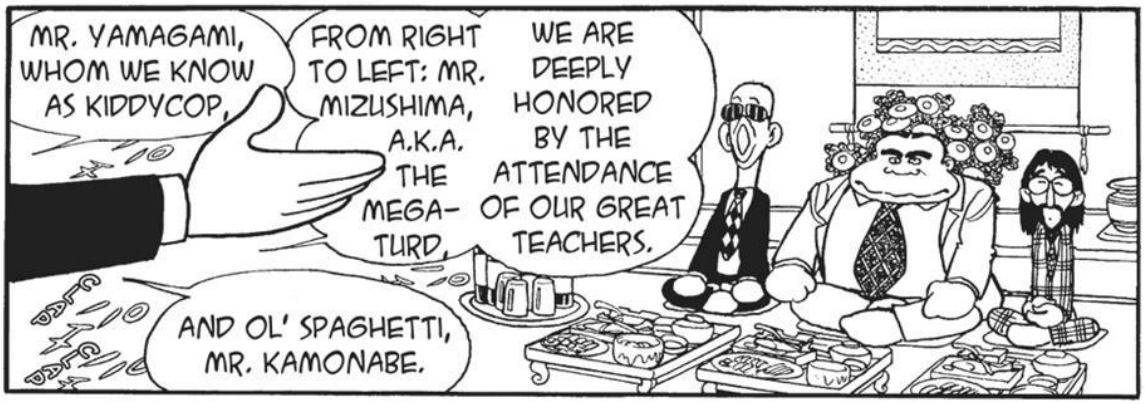
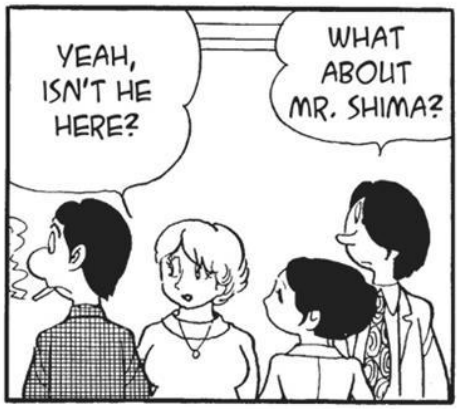
FALSE IMAGE

HIRAMATSU ELEMENTARY SCHOOL REUNION
平松小学校同窓会
御席
CHATTY CHAT!
CHAT
CHAT
CHAT
CHAT
CHAT!
HIGH SCHOOL AND JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL REUNIONS ARE A DIME A DOZEN...
BUT FOR AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL REUNION TO BE SO WELL ATTENDED, AHEM...
A BIG THANKS FROM US ORGA-NIZERS!
CLAP
CLAP
AHEM!
CHAT-TER
CHATTER CHATTER
SHH!





NOTE: THE TEACHERS' NAMES, NICKNAMES, AND FACES RIFF ON THEN-POPULAR MANGA AND THEIR AUTHORS.

OH, MY!
HE'S A NOTORIOUS BACK-ALLEY SURGEON. IN AND OUT THE SLAMMER!

BETTER KNOWN AS BLACK JACK, YES?
HA HA!

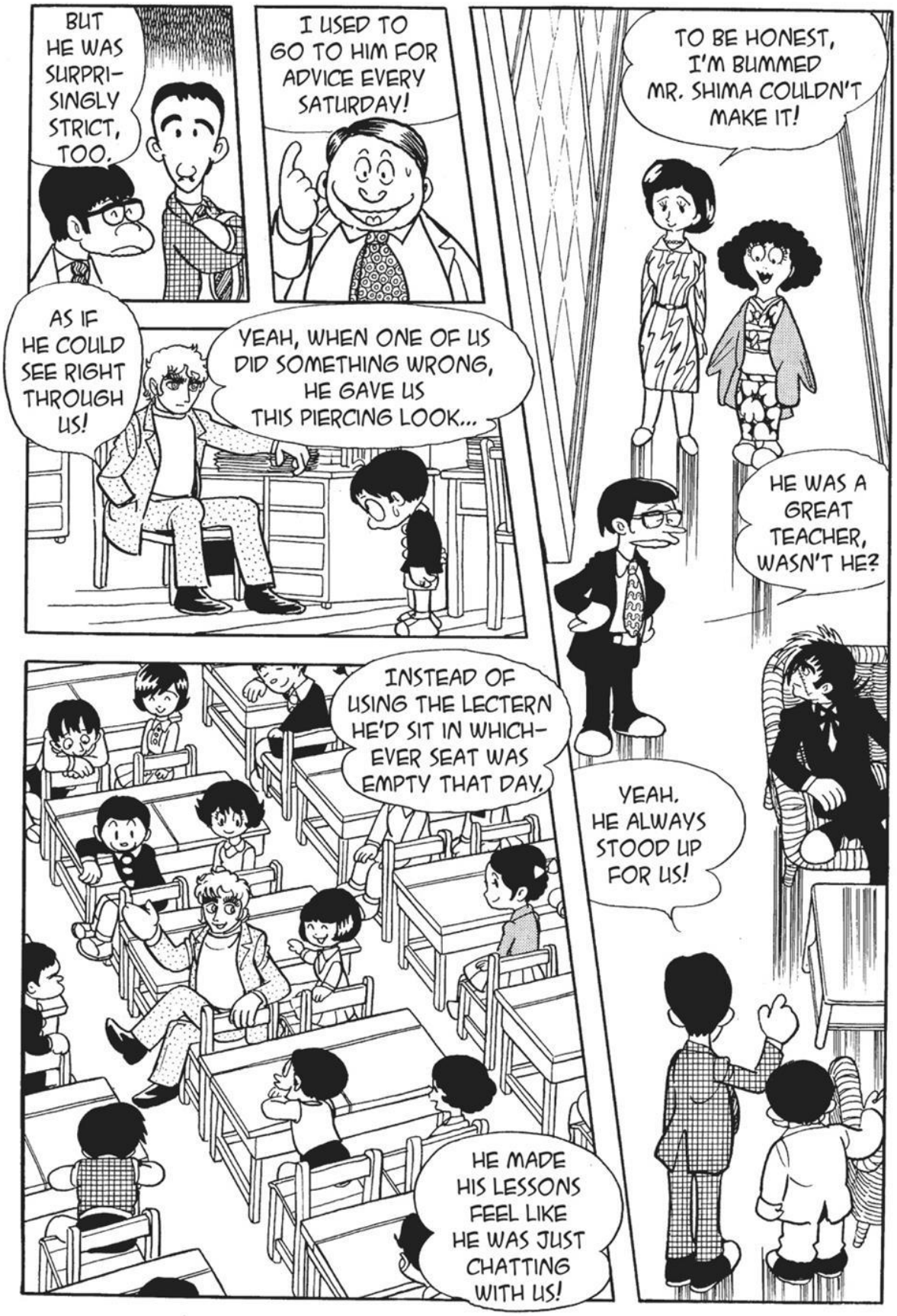
KURO'O HAZAMA

CLAP
CLAP

ROMIO. I'M THE LADIES' MAN!
WA HA HA HA
AH HA HA HA

YEAH.
IS MR. SHIMA REALLY SICK?
WHAT'S AILING HIM?
AH, THAT'S RIGHT... YOU'RE A DOCTOR!
I DON'T EXACTLY KNOW.
HE'S HARD TO TRACK DOWN...

WELL, WELL! WATCHA DOING SITTIN' OUT HERE ALL ALONE?
HAVING A SMOKE.


BUT HE WAS SURPRISINGLY STRICT, TOO.
I USED TO GO TO HIM FOR ADVICE EVERY SATURDAY!
TO BE HONEST, I'M BUMMED MR. SHIMA COULDN'T MAKE IT!
AS IF HE COULD SEE RIGHT THROUGH US!
YEAH, WHEN ONE OF US DID SOMETHING WRONG, HE GAVE US THIS PIERCING LOOK...
HE WAS A GREAT TEACHER, WASN'T HE?
INSTEAD OF USING THE LECTERN HE'D SIT IN WHICHEVER SEAT WAS EMPTY THAT DAY.
YEAH. HE ALWAYS STOOD UP FOR US!
HE MADE HIS LESSONS FEEL LIKE HE WAS JUST CHATTING WITH US!

I WAS SO SAD THE DAY HE SUDDENLY QUIT...
THE REASON I DECIDED TO BECOME A TEACHER!
HE WAS
HE COULDN'T FORGIVE THE PRINCIPAL TAKING BRIBES FOR ADMISSION!
YEAH, HE MADE A LOT OF ENEMIES PROTESTING CORRUPT ADMISSIONS PRACTICES.
HE HAD A STRONG SENSE OF JUSTICE.
THAT WAS JUST FOUR MONTHS BEFORE WE GRADU-ATED!
NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT...
入学の不正をただせ
END
ADMISSION BRIBERY!
THAT'S RIGHT! MR. SHIMA WASN'T AT OUR GRADU-ATION!
IT WASN'T A PROPER GRADUATION WITHOUT HIM.
DO YOU KNOW WHY HE LEFT? IT WAS BECAUSE HE OPENED THE PRINCIPAL'S SAFE!
I KNOW! BUT HE ONLY DID IT TO FIND PROOF OF THE PRINCIPAL'S DIRTY DEALS.
THE PRINCIPAL AND THE DIRECTOR HAD IT IN FOR MR. SHIMA!

AFTER ALL, WE ALL WANT TO SEE HIM!
I SECOND THE MOTION!

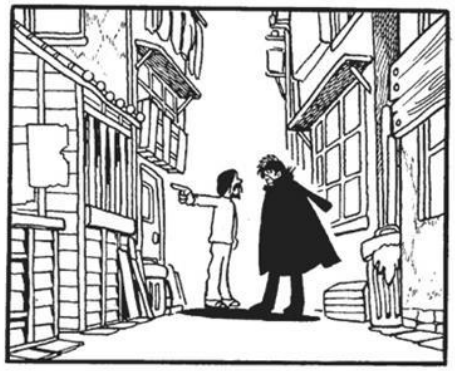
BUT FIRST, WE'VE GOT TO TRACK HIM DOWN.
WHAT ABOUT HIS HEALTH?

THAT'S WHERE YOU COME IN, BLACK JACK!

I KNOW! WHY DON'T WE REDO OUR GRADUATION CEREMONY, WITH MR. SHIMA THIS TIME!
MR. SHIMA PROBABLY WANTED TO BE AT OUR GRADU-ATION.
RIGHT! WE COULD HAVE DIPLOMAS MADE AND MR. SHIMA COULD HAND THEM OUT.

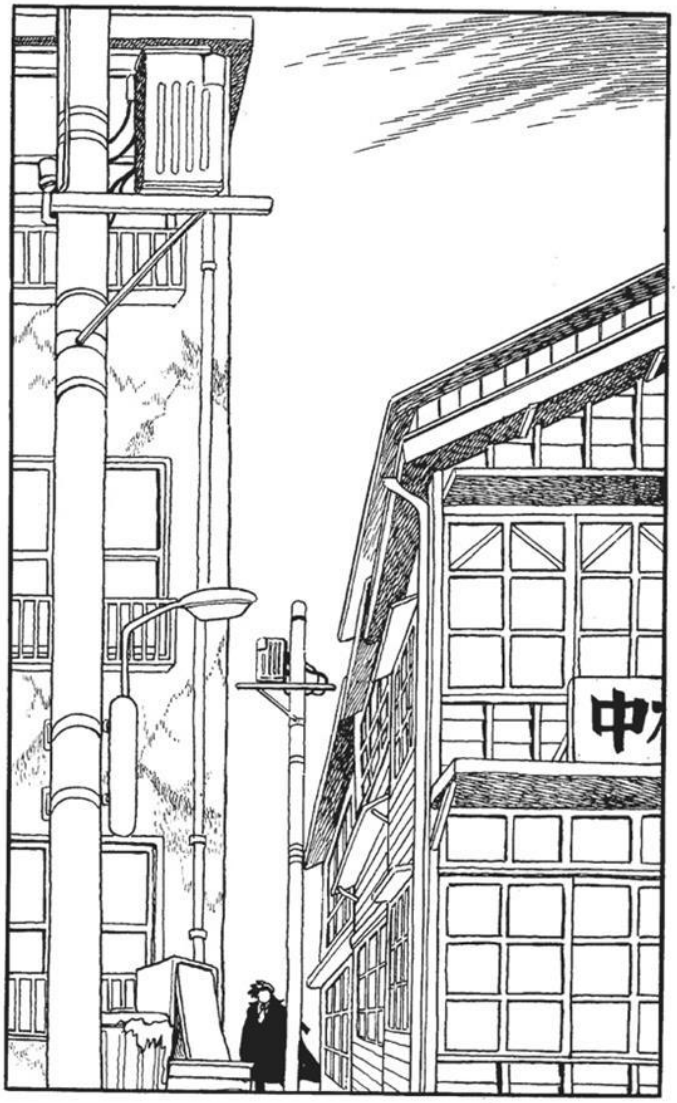
I HAVE AN ANNOUNCE-MENT TO MAKE ON BEHALF OF THE EVENT COMMIT-TEE.
QUIET, EVERY-BODY! QUIET!

IT'S A REAL BUZZ-KILLER WITH EVERYONE OUT IN THE HALL!
HEY, WHAT'S GOING ON?

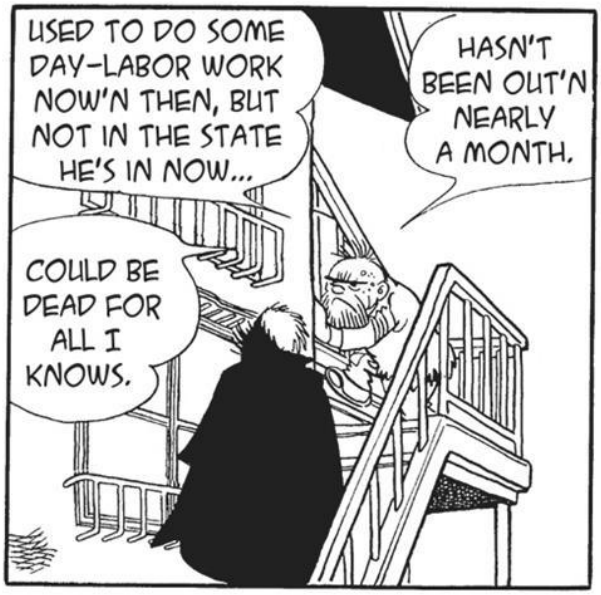


TAKE A GOOD LOOK. HE APPARENTLY LIVES AROUND HERE.

LOOKS A LOT LIKE A FELLER OVER 'N PENPEN HOUSE.
BUT HE AIN'T WELL.

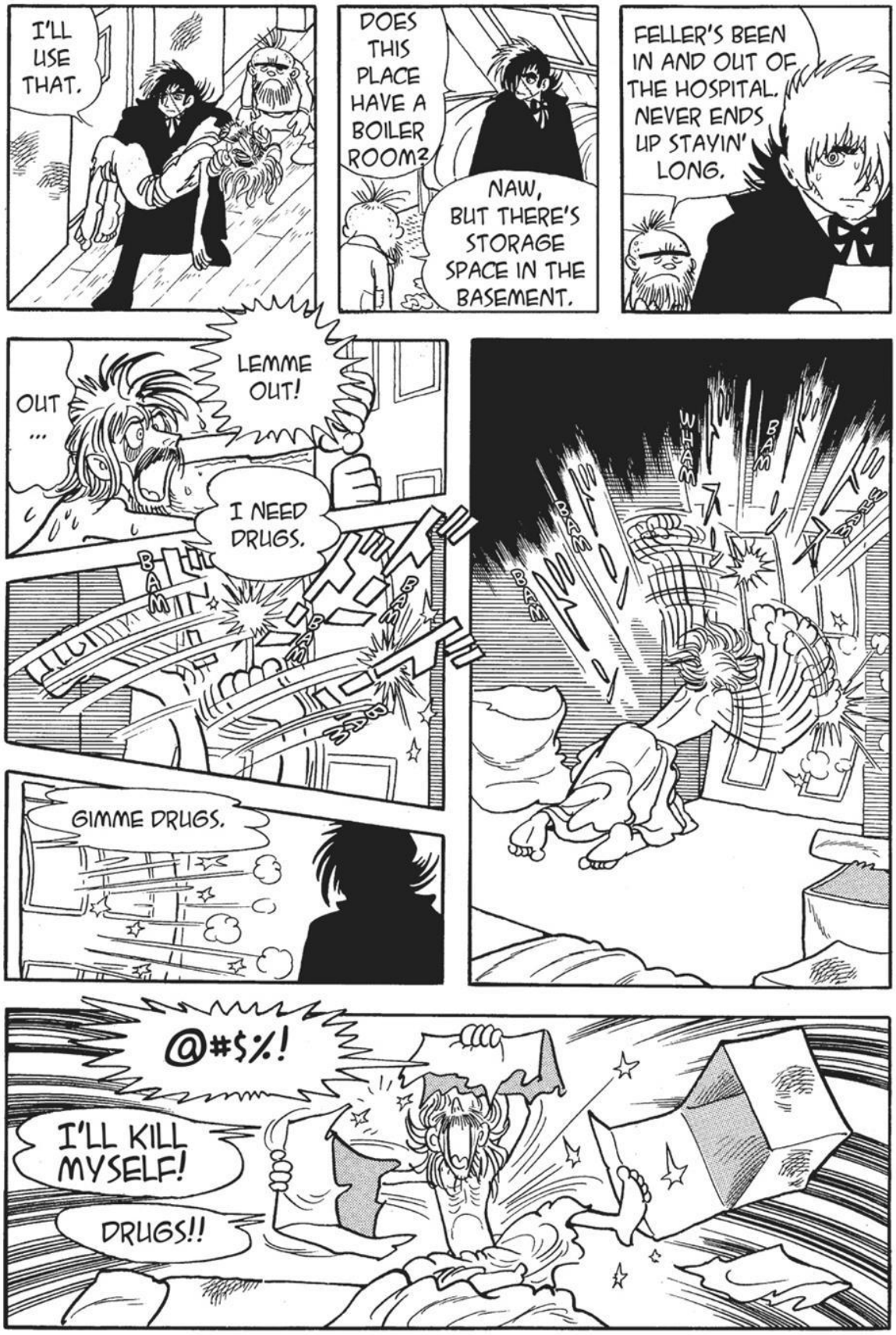


HEY, RAG-BONES!
YOU STILL ALIVE?

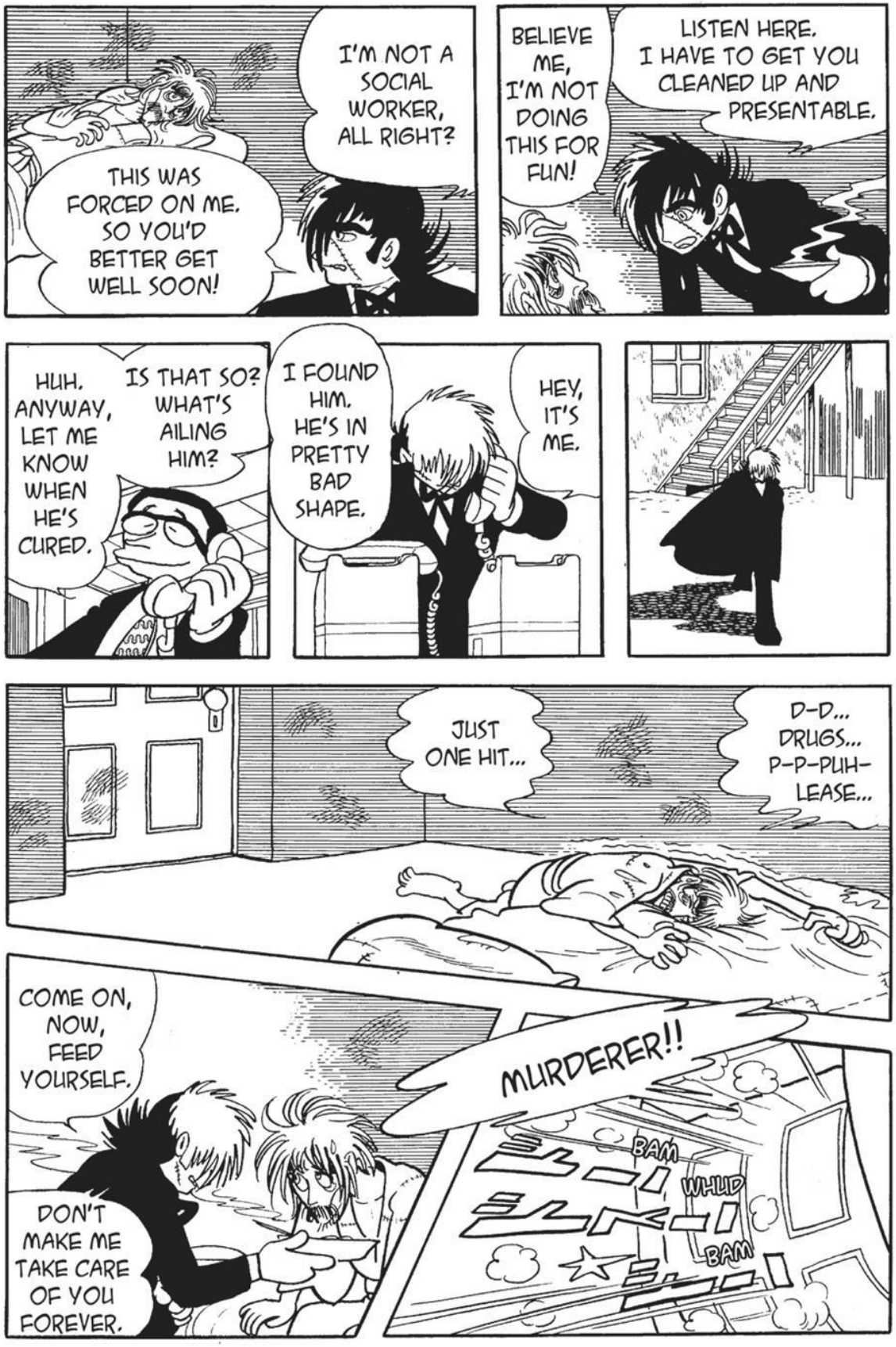

USED TO DO SOME DAY-LABOR WORK NOW'N THEN, BUT NOT IN THE STATE HE'S IN NOW...
HASN'T BEEN OUT'N NEARLY A MONTH.
COULD BE DEAD FOR ALL I KNOWS.

UGH!
IS YOUR NAME... SHIMA?

DRUGS... GIMME SOME...
MR. SHIMA?
ARE YOU
...
DOES THIS PICTURE MEAN ANY-THING TO YOU ?
PLEASE... DRUGS...
HE'S AN ADDICT?!
NEARLY AN EMPTY SHELL!
FINAL STAGE ...
KLONK
ガクリ
EUREKA! HIS BLOOD DONATION RECORD ...
BUT... WHAT A TRANS-FORMATION.
YOHEI SHIMA, AGE 43. IT'S HIM, ALL RIGHT!
THERE MUST BE... A WAY TO DETERMINE HIS IDENTITY.
WELL, NOW! YER A DOCTOR ?!

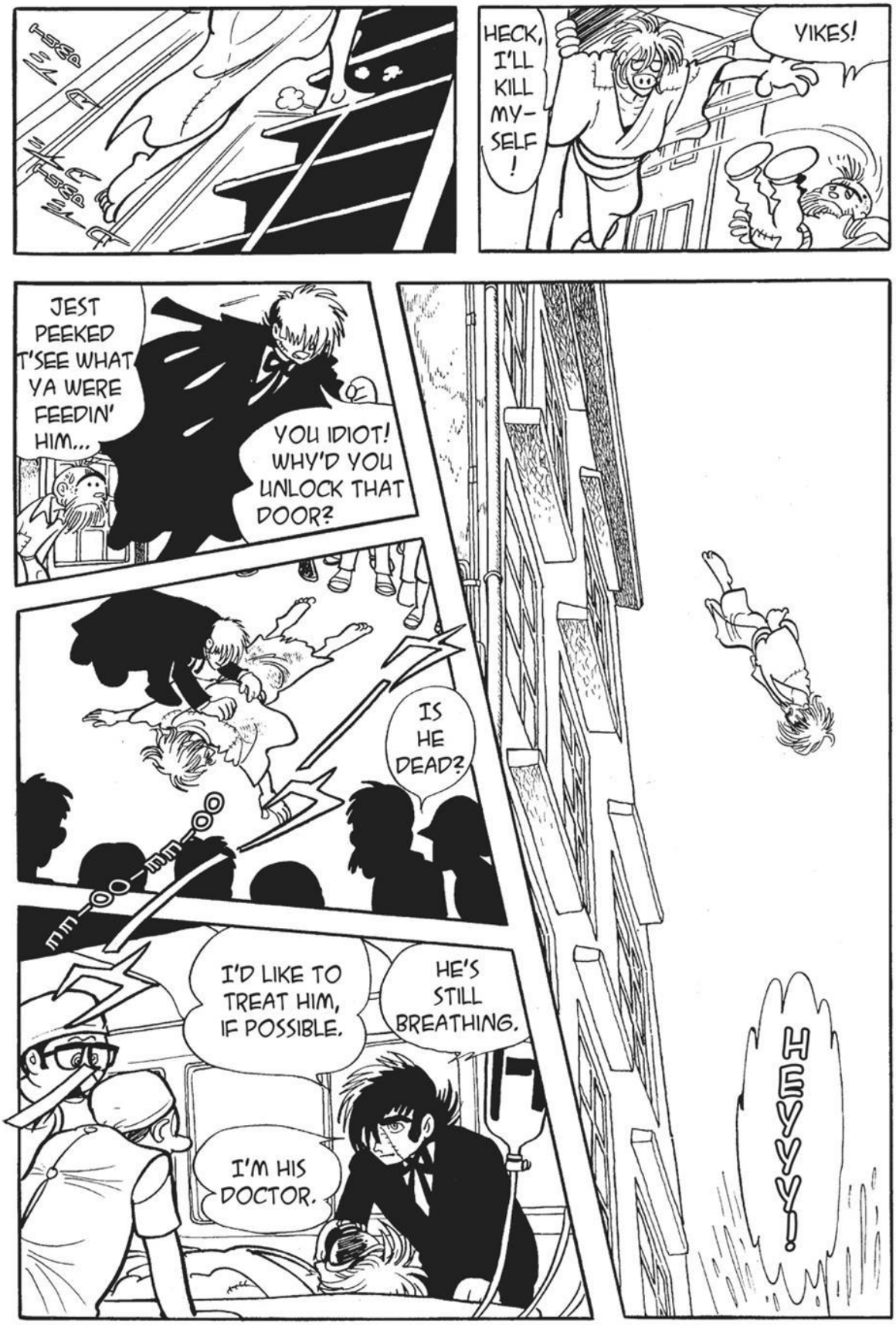

I'LL USE THAT.
DOES THIS PLACE HAVE A BOILER ROOM?
NAW, BUT THERE'S STORAGE SPACE IN THE BASEMENT.
FELLER'S BEEN IN AND OUT OF THE HOSPITAL. NEVER ENDS UP STAYIN' LONG.
OUT ...
LEMME OUT!
I NEED DRUGS.
BAM
GIMME DRUGS.
WHAM
BAM
@#$%!
I'LL KILL MYSELF!
DRUGS!!

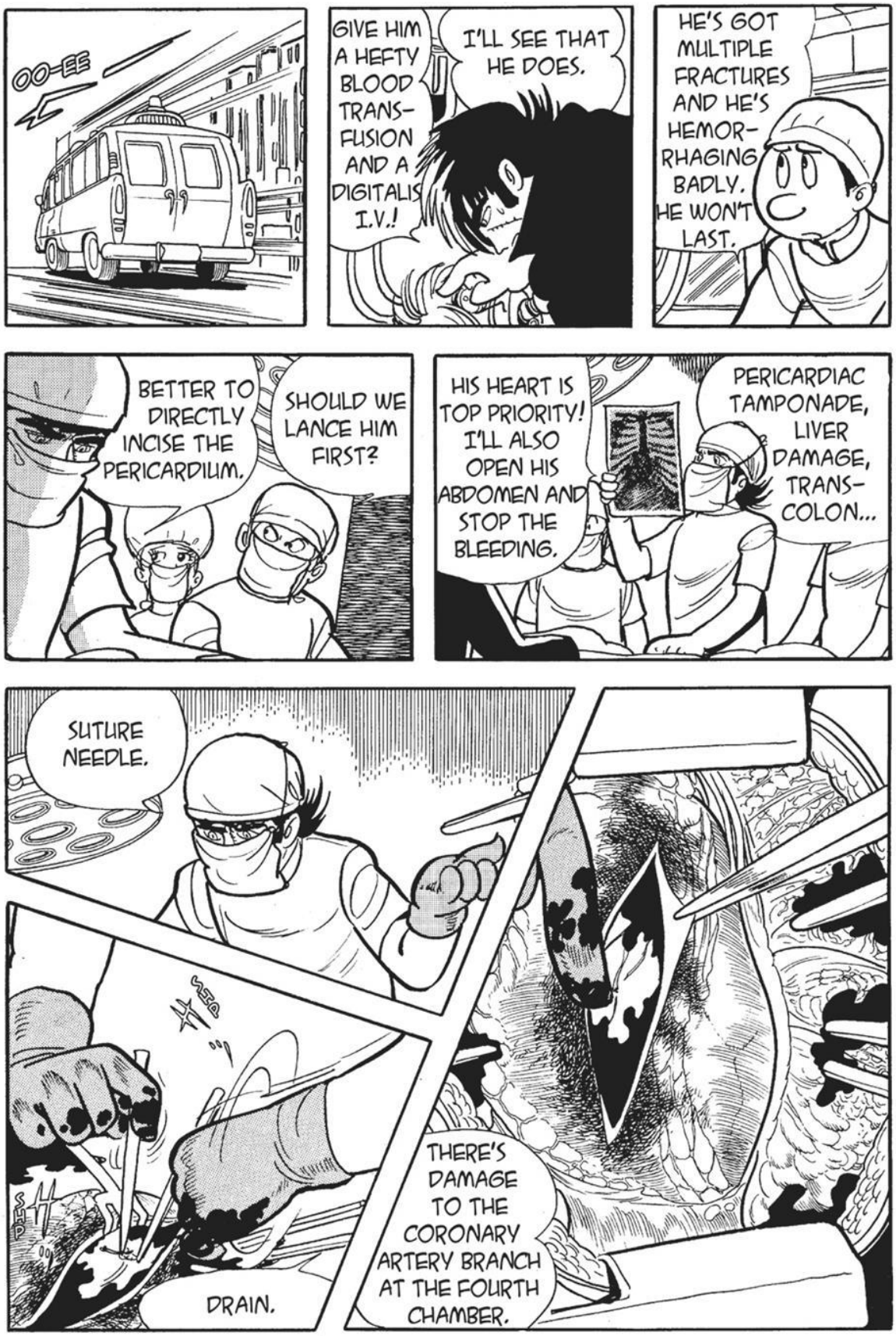
AFTER THAT, IT'LL GRADUALLY SUBSIDE.
THE AGONY WILL PEAK IN 48 HOURS.
HELP ME!
IT HURTS!
OUCH!
KILL ME, PLEASE!
UHHG...
FORGET ABOUT IT!
PLEASE, JUST ONE HIT. I'LL DO ANYTHING YOU SAY.
YOU NEED TO EAT TO SURVIVE.

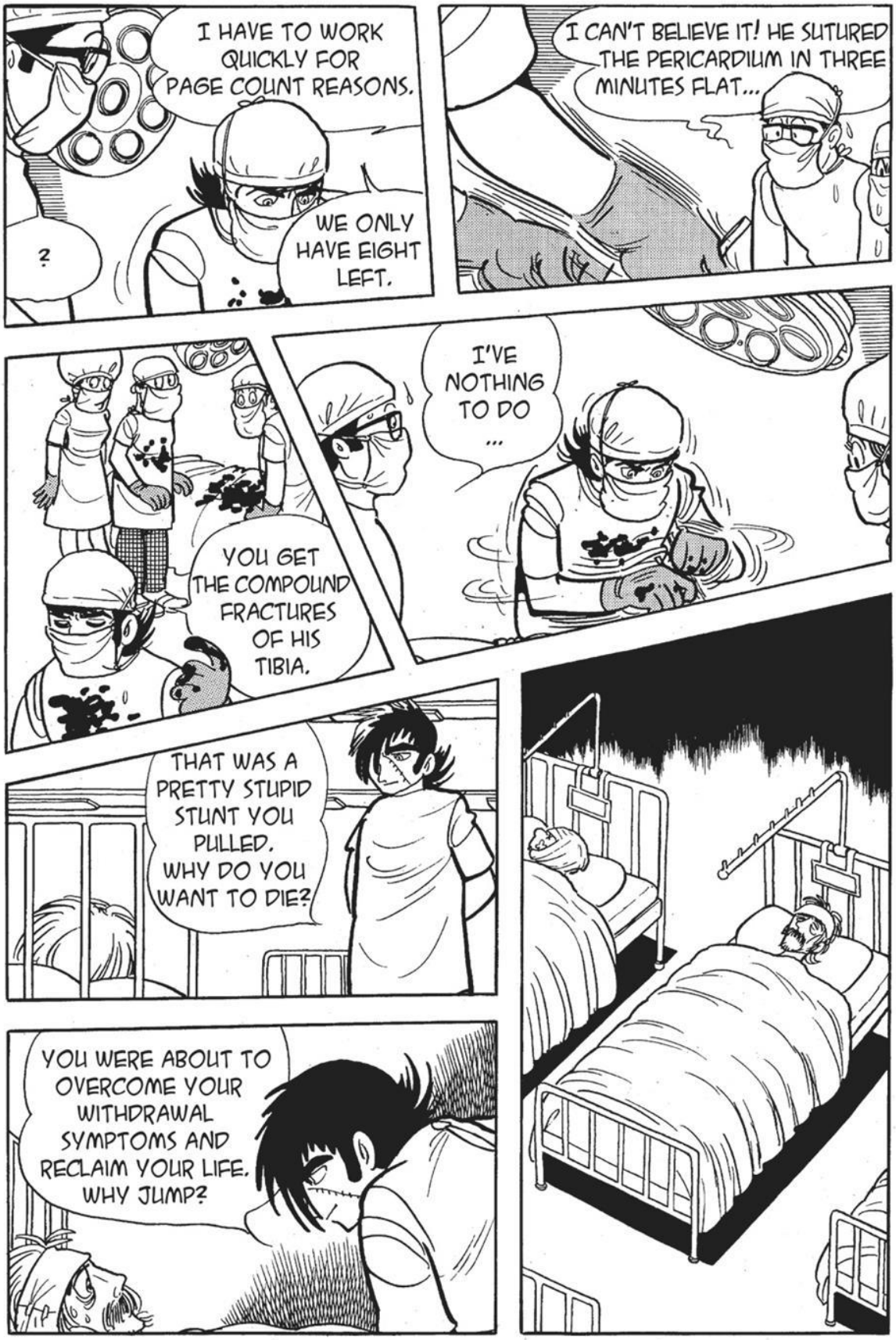

I'M NOT A SOCIAL WORKER, ALL RIGHT?
THIS WAS FORCED ON ME. SO YOU'D BETTER GET WELL SOON!
LISTEN HERE. I HAVE TO GET YOU CLEANED UP AND PRESENTABLE.
BELIEVE ME, I'M NOT DOING THIS FOR FUN!
HEY, IT'S ME.
I FOUND HIM. HE'S IN PRETTY BAD SHAPE.
IS THAT SO? WHAT'S AILING HIM?
HUH. ANYWAY, LET ME KNOW WHEN HE'S CURED.
D-D... DRUGS... P-P-PUH-LEASE...
JUST ONE HIT...
MURDERER!!
BAM
WHUD
BAM
COME ON, NOW, FEED YOURSELF.
DON'T MAKE ME TAKE CARE OF YOU FOREVER.

I HAVE TO CURE YOU.
NO? THEN WHY'RE YOU DOING THIS TO ME?
ARE YOU FROM THE HOSPITAL?
I'D LOVE TO. IT'S NOT LIKE I'M EARNING A RED CENT FOR MY TROUBLES.
WHY NOT JUST LEAVE ME ALONE? I'M WORTHLESS TRASH.
W-WHO?
HOW CAN THAT BE?
WHAT ?
WHO'RE ANXIOUSLY AWAITING YOUR RECOVERY.
I'M HERE ON BEHALF OF DOZENS OF PEOPLE
AND WHY WOULD AN EXCELLENT TEACHER BE DESPERATE?
TEACHER?!
I WAS DESPERATE. I DID IT TO TAKE OFF THE EDGE...
WHY ?
WHY'D YOU START DOING MORPHINE?

BUT I'VE FORGOTTEN ALL THAT! WHAT'S IT TO ME?
TWENTY YEARS AGO, YOU WERE A GRADE SCHOOL TEACHER, MUCH LOVED BY YOUR STUDENTS.
AT THE CLASS REUNION, THEY DECIDED TO INVITE YOU TO A SECOND GRADUATION CEREMONY.
H-HOW DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THAT? THAT WAS AGES AGO!
WHY SHOULD I CARE?
I DON'T CARE!
SO?!
JUST A CHUMP THE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE TASKED TO COME AND CURE YOU.
WHO THE HELL ARE YOU, ANYWAY?
I WON'T DO IT! I WON'T GO...
THOSE DOZENS OF PEOPLE EAGERLY AWAITING YOUR RECOVERY ARE THE KIDS YOU ONCE TAUGHT!

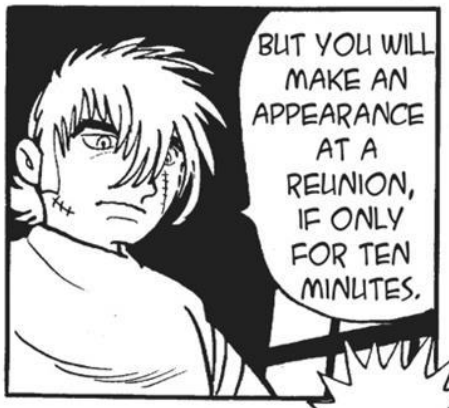

HECK, I'LL KILL MY-SELF!
YIKES!
JEST PEEKED T'SEE WHAT YA WERE FEEDIN' HIM...
YOU IDIOT! WHY'D YOU UNLOCK THAT DOOR?
IS HE DEAD?
I'D LIKE TO TREAT HIM, IF POSSIBLE.
HE'S STILL BREATHING.
I'M HIS DOCTOR.
HEYYY!


OO-EE
GIVE HIM A HEFTY BLOOD TRANS-FUSION AND A DIGITALIS I.V.!
I'LL SEE THAT HE DOES.
HE'S GOT MULTIPLE FRACTURES AND HE'S HEMOR-RHAGING BADLY. HE WON'T LAST.
BETTER TO DIRECTLY INCISE THE PERICARDIUM.
SHOULD WE LANCE HIM FIRST?
HIS HEART IS TOP PRIORITY! I'LL ALSO OPEN HIS ABDOMEN AND STOP THE BLEEDING.
PERICARDIAC TAMPONADE, LIVER DAMAGE, TRANS-COLON...
SUTURE NEEDLE.
DRAIN.
THERE'S DAMAGE TO THE CORONARY ARTERY BRANCH AT THE FOURTH CHAMBER.

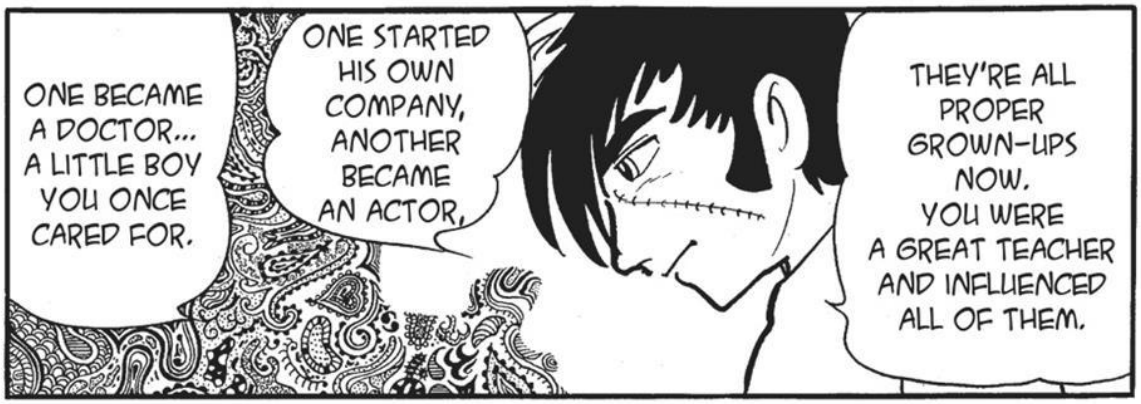

I HAVE TO WORK QUICKLY FOR PAGE COUNT REASONS.
?
WE ONLY HAVE EIGHT LEFT.
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! HE SUTURED THE PERICARDIUM IN THREE MINUTES FLAT...
YOU GET THE COMPOUND FRACTURES OF HIS TIBIA.
I'VE NOTHING TO DO ...
THAT WAS A PRETTY STUPID STUNT YOU PULLED. WHY DO YOU WANT TO DIE?
YOU WERE ABOUT TO OVERCOME YOUR WITHDRAWAL SYMPTOMS AND RECLAIM YOUR LIFE. WHY JUMP?

AFTER YOU SEE YOUR STUDENTS, YOU CAN DO AS YOU LIKE.
I DON'T CARE WHAT YOU DO WITH YOUR LIFE.

YOU HAND THEM THEIR DIPLOMAS!
YOUR STUDENTS WANTED YOU TO GIVE THEM CLOSURE!
WHY NOT ?

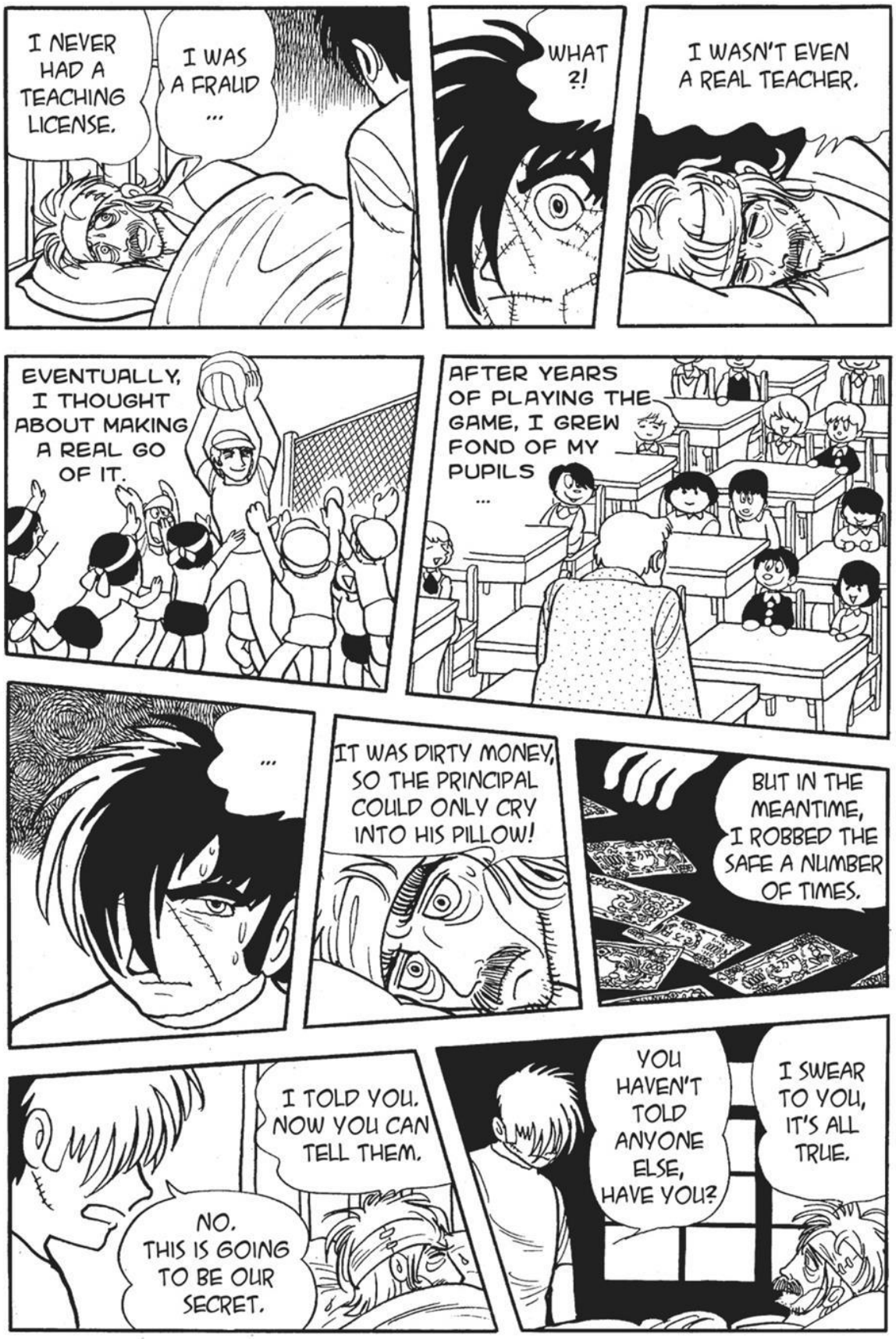

BUT YOU WILL MAKE AN APPEARANCE AT A REUNION, IF ONLY FOR TEN MINUTES.

NO!
I'VE NO SUCH DUTY!
I DON'T WANT TO.


ONE BECAME A DOCTOR... A LITTLE BOY YOU ONCE CARED FOR.
ONE STARTED HIS OWN COMPANY, ANOTHER BECAME AN ACTOR,
THEY'RE ALL PROPER GROWN-UPS NOW. YOU WERE A GREAT TEACHER AND INFLUENCED ALL OF THEM.

HE WAS IN A WHEELCHAIR. ALL ALONE IN THE WORLD, AN ORPHAN...
KURO'O...
YES, I DO REMEMBER...
DON'T YOU REMEMBER HIM? HIS NAME WAS KURO'O.
HOW ARE THEY ?
WELL YES, I DO. AND WATABE AND SHIKADA, TOO...
THAT'S RIGHT !
AND HOTTA, SHIMIZU, SUZUKI, FUKUDA, KOMATSU. REMEMBER THEM?
THAT'S HOW MUCH THEY LOVED YOU.
THAT'S WHY THEY WANTED YOU TO BE THERE AT THEIR GRADUATION!
ONE GIRL EVEN NAMED HER SON AFTER YOU.
THEY'RE ALL MARRIED WITH CHILDREN OF THEIR OWN.
YOU SEE WHAT I'VE BECOME. I CAN'T FACE THEM!
I'M WORTHLESS.
NO!
SO YOU'LL DO IT?

I KNEW THAT WAS BRIBE MONEY IN THE SAFE. THAT'S WHY I STOLE IT.
NO...
YES, IT'S TRUE! I WANTED THE MONEY...
THAT'S THE ONLY REASON I OPENED THE SAFE.
TO STEAL THE MONEY !!
NO WAY ...
IT'S TRUE! I OPENED THE SAFE TO STEAL THE MONEY!
NO! I CAN'T DO IT!
I DON'T HAVE THE RIGHT!
BECAUSE YOU WERE FIRED? BECAUSE YOU OPENED THE PRINCIPAL'S SAFE?
YES !!
TO EXPOSE THE PRINCIPAL'S UNSAVORY PRACTICES, RIGHT?
WRONG !


I NEVER HAD A TEACHING LICENSE.
I WAS A FRAUD ...
WHAT ?!
I WASN'T EVEN A REAL TEACHER.
EVENTUALLY, I THOUGHT ABOUT MAKING A REAL GO OF IT.
AFTER YEARS OF PLAYING THE GAME, I GREW FOND OF MY PUPILS ...
...
IT WAS DIRTY MONEY, SO THE PRINCIPAL COULD ONLY CRY INTO HIS PILLOW!
BUT IN THE MEANTIME, I ROBBED THE SAFE A NUMBER OF TIMES.
I TOLD YOU. NOW YOU CAN TELL THEM.
NO. THIS IS GOING TO BE OUR SECRET.
YOU HAVEN'T TOLD ANYONE ELSE, HAVE YOU?
I SWEAR TO YOU, IT'S ALL TRUE.

IF YOU DON'T, I'LL HAVE YOU SUED FOR FRAUD!
YOU'LL DO YOUR DUTY AND SHOW YOUR FACE.
I'M NOT GOING TO LET YOU RUN AWAY NOW!
IT MAY BE TRUE, BUT THEY THINK OF YOU AS THEIR MENTOR!

REALLY? THAT'S FANTASTIC! I'LL GO AHEAD AND SET THE DATE!

ABOUT MR. SHIMA...
HE'S BETTER. HE'LL BE AT THE RE-UNION.

WHA- ARE YOU TRYING TO GIVE ME A HEART ATTACK?
I'VE GOT A MILLION IN INDIVIDUAL DONA-TIONS...

MY NORMAL FEE ?
THAT WOULD BE 30 MILLION YEN.

YOUR HARD WORK OUGHT TO BE COMPENSATED. WHAT'S YOUR NORMAL FEE?

I CAN'T MAKE IT TO THE REUNION. SAY HI FOR ME.
OH, AND
ガチャ
KCHING

BUT...

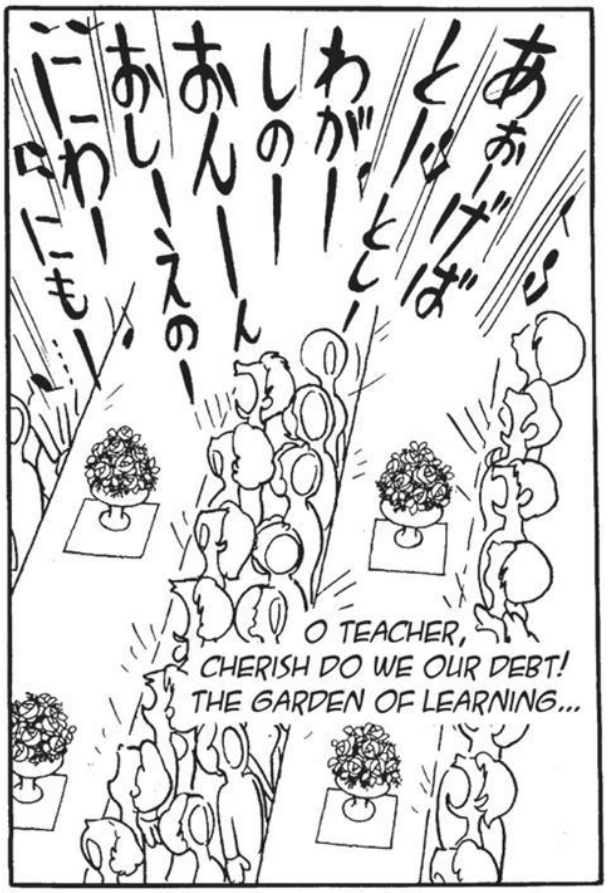
JUST GIVE IT ALL TO MR. SHIMA, OKAY?
I'M NOT INTERESTED IN CHUMP CHANGE.

CLAP CLAP
CLAP CLAP
CLAP CLAP CLAP

CLICK
CLICK
CLICK
CLICK
CLICK

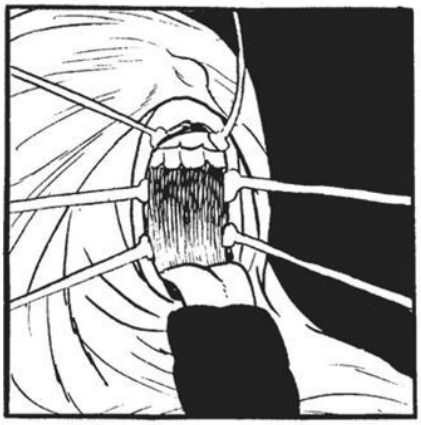
AND NOW, OUR GUEST OF HONOR!
MR. SHIMA!

HIRAMATSU ELEMENTARY 19TH CLASS GRADUATION
平松小学校
19期卒業式式



NOTE: "SENSEI," USUALLY TRANSLATED AS *TEACHER*, IS ALSO THE HONORIFIC FOR DOCTORS. IN THE ORIGINAL JAPANESE, *DR. BLACK JACK* IS ALWAYS "BURAKKU JAKKU SENSEI."

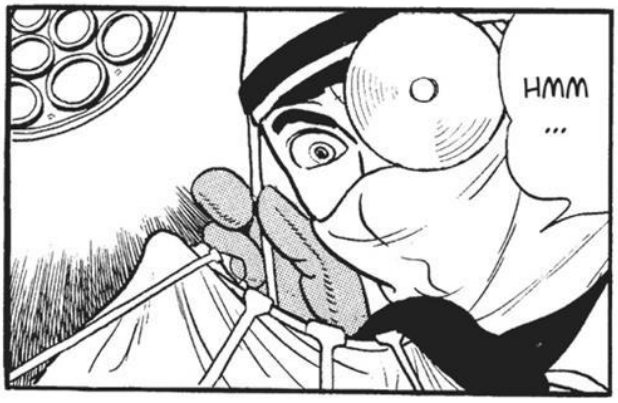
THE SCREAM

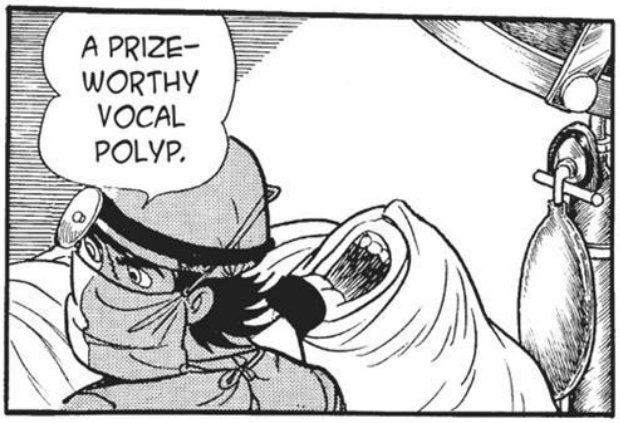


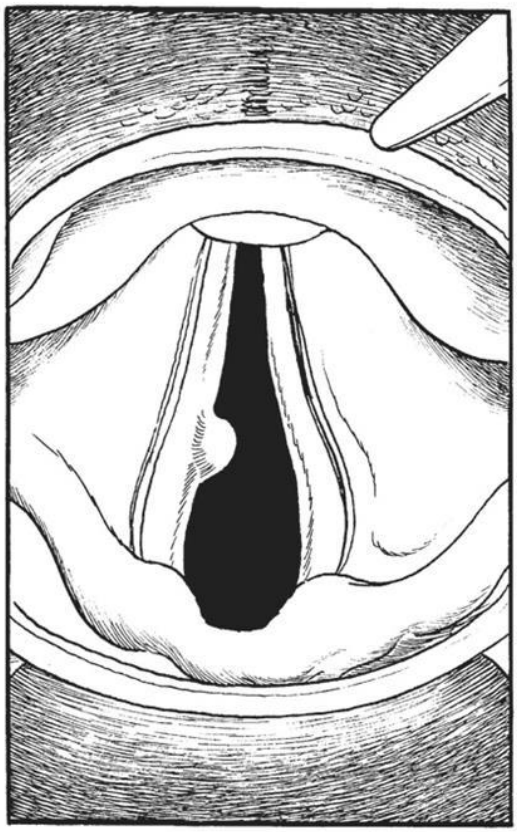
WITHOUT YOU SULKING ?

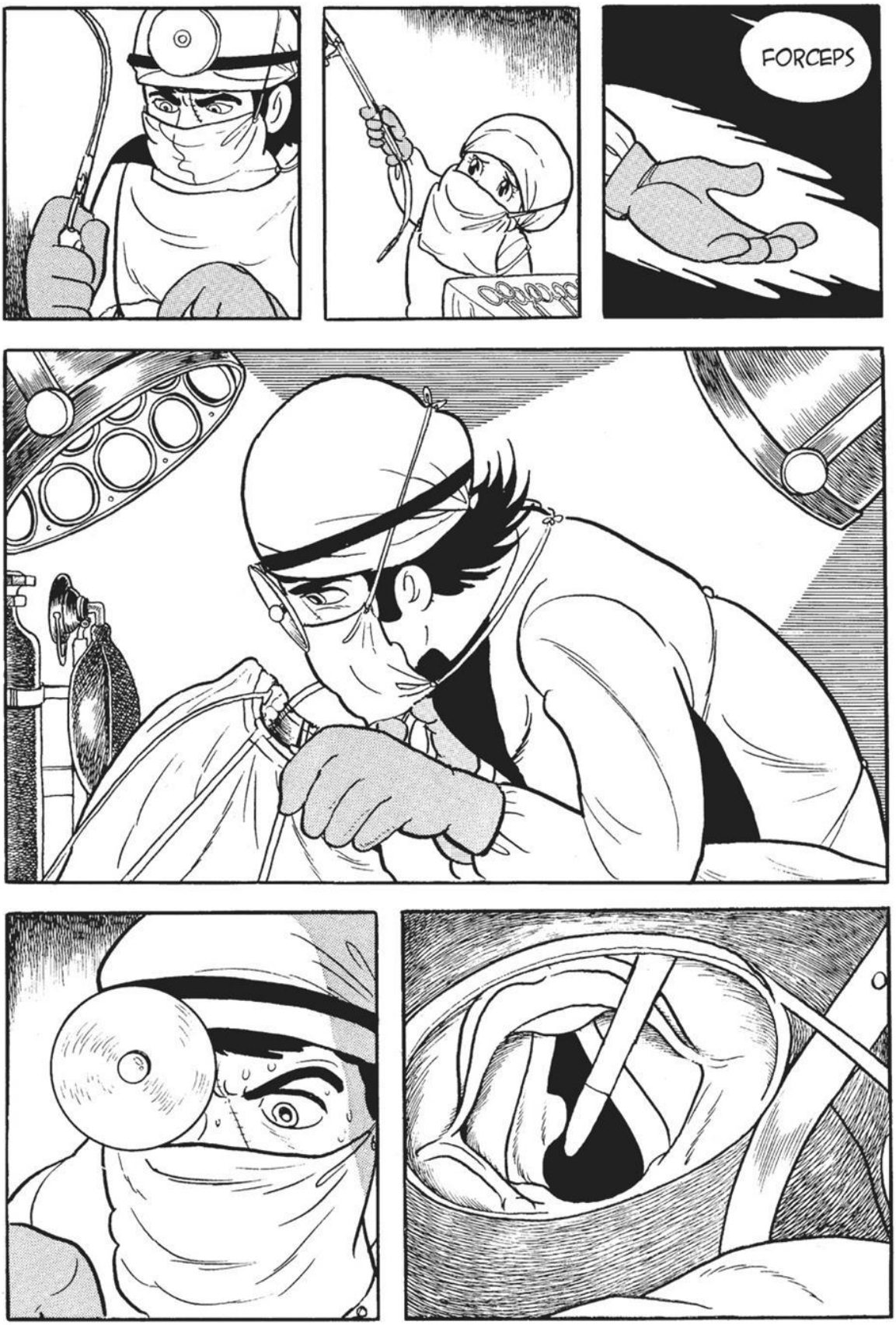
PINOKO, CAN'T WE EVER OPERATE ON A WOMAN

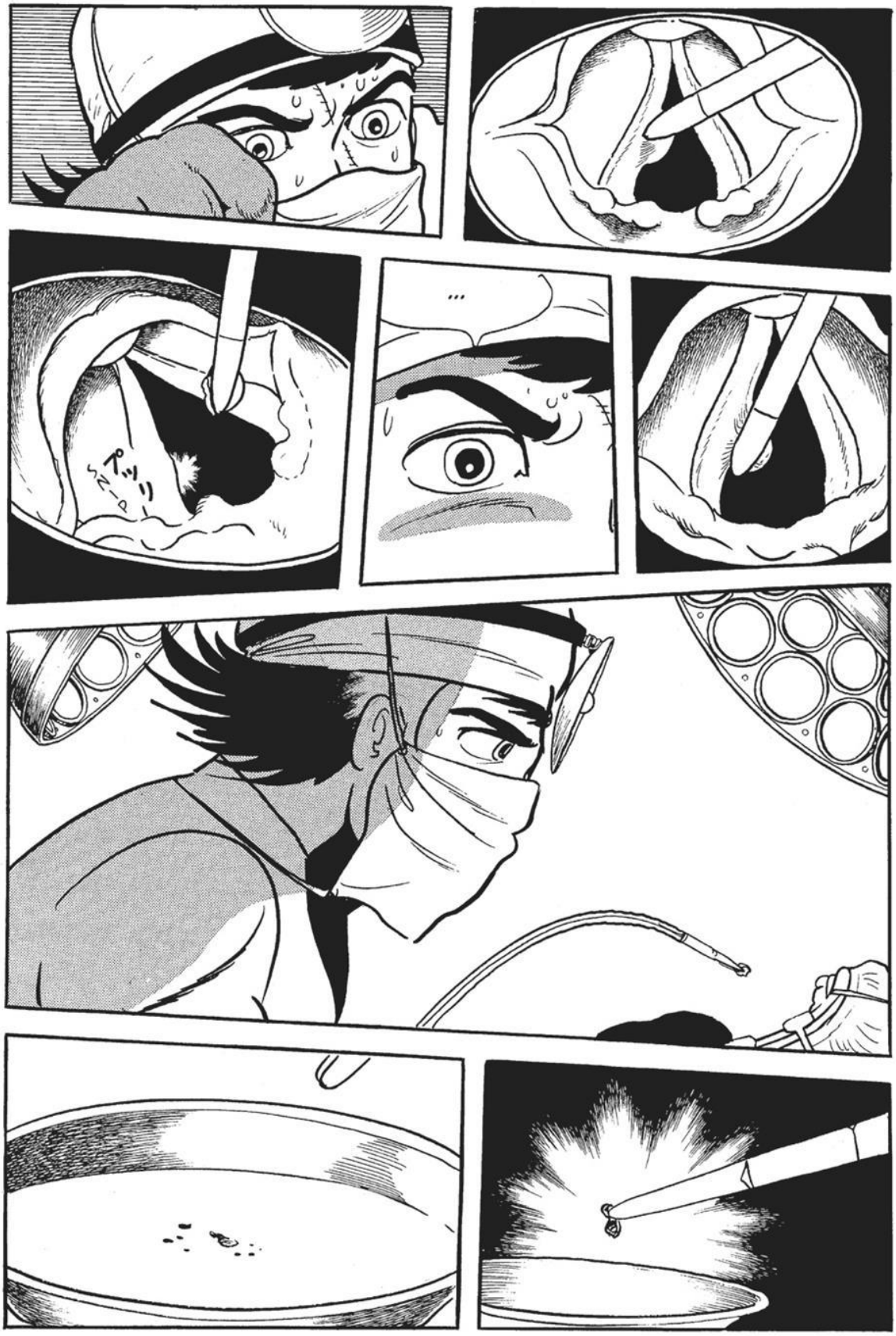
MAN, WOMAN, OR OTHER, THEY'RE ALL JUST PATIENTS TO ME.
LARYNGO-SCOPE.
BUT YOU'RE SHO EXTWA CAREFUL WHEN IT'S A LADY!


HMM ...


A PRIZE-WORTHY VOCAL POLYP.

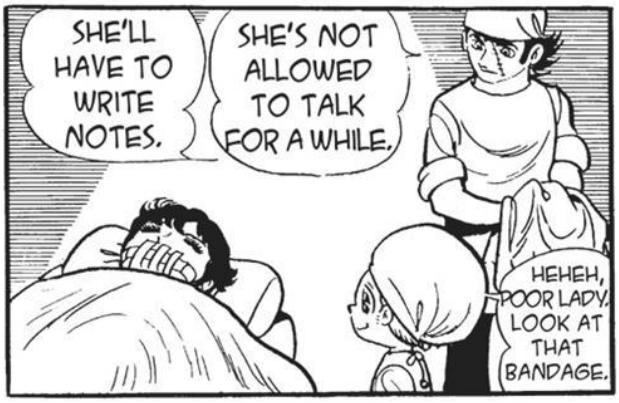


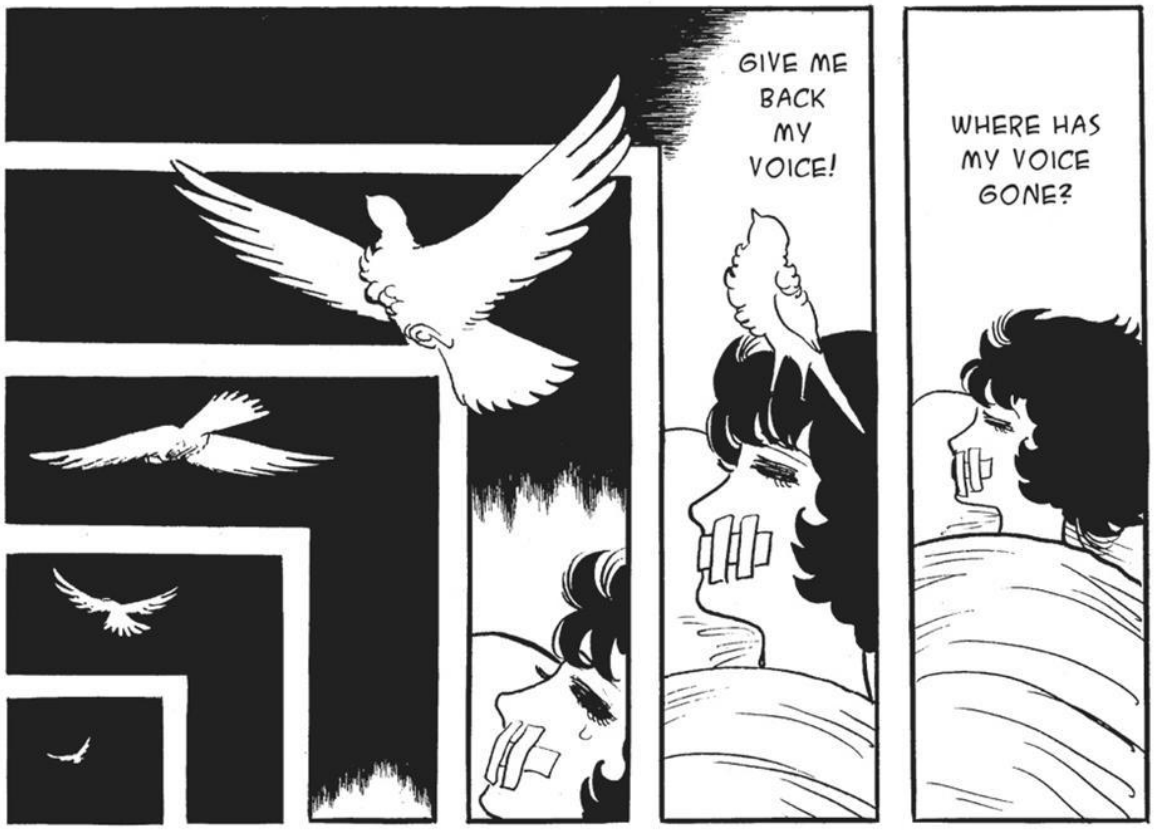

FORCEPS


ペッリ
…

DONE !

ACCHON BURIKE !
PINOKO, YOUR YAPPING TENDS TO LURE PATIENTS INTO SPEAKING.
STAY AWAY FROM HER WHEN SHE WAKES UP.

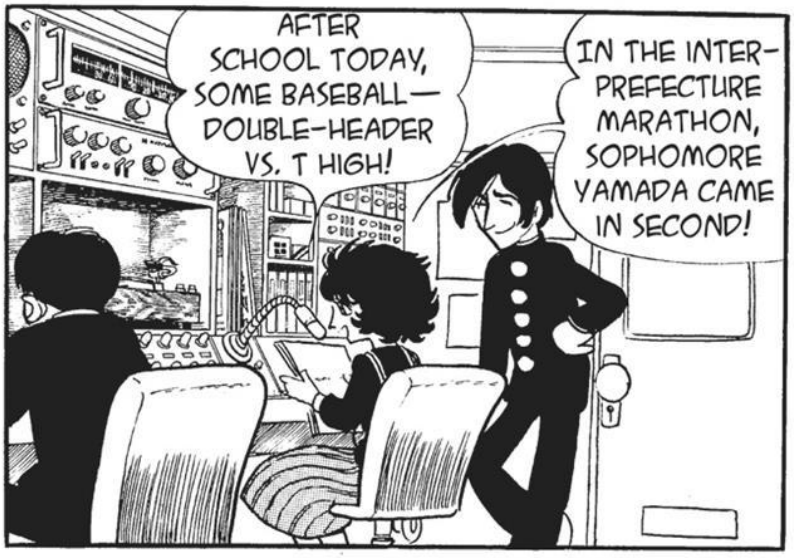

SHE'LL HAVE TO WRITE NOTES.
SHE'S NOT ALLOWED TO TALK FOR A WHILE.
HEHEH, POOR LADY. LOOK AT THAT BANDAGE.

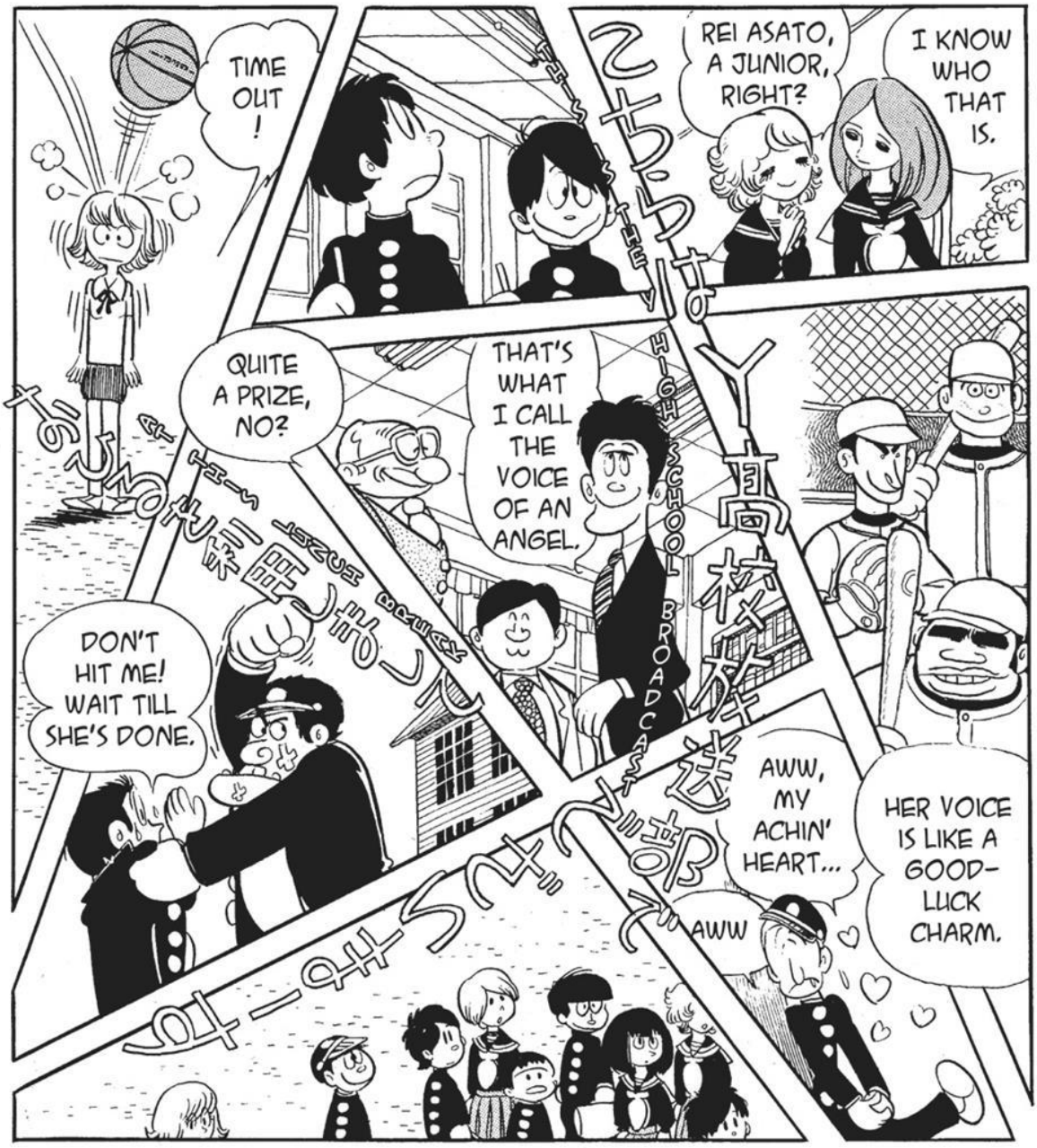

GIVE ME BACK MY VOICE!
WHERE HAS MY VOICE GONE?

GOOD MORNING EVERYONE, THIS IS THE Y HIGH SCHOOL BROADCAST! ARE YOU READY FOR ANOTHER GREAT DAY? BEFORE THE MORNING ASSEMBLY...
DING DONG

WE'VE GOT SOME NEWS FOR YOU!

TIME FOR THE MORNING ASSEMBLY. PLEASE, TO THE COURTYARD!


AFTER SCHOOL TODAY, SOME BASEBALL— DOUBLE-HEADER VS. T HIGH!
IN THE INTER-PREFECTURE MARATHON, SOPHOMORE YAMADA CAME IN SECOND!


TIME OUT!
REI ASATO, A JUNIOR, RIGHT?
I KNOW WHO THAT IS.
QUITE A PRIZE, NO?
THAT'S WHAT I CALL THE VOICE OF AN ANGEL.
DON'T HIT ME! WAIT TILL SHE'S DONE.
AWW, MY ACHIN' HEART...
AWW
HER VOICE IS LIKE A GOOD-LUCK CHARM.

THE TEACHERS SAID NOT TO!
SORRY, GIRLS!
YOUR AUTOGRAPH, PLEASE...

WE HAVE AN ANNOUNCEMENT FOR YOU ON BEHALF OF THE SCHOOL...

WHAT IF I SUDDENLY LOSE MY VOICE ONE DAY?

WELL. I'M SCARED.
I'M SURE YOU'LL MAKE IT.

ACTUALLY, I'D LIKE TO BE A VOICE ACTRESS.
WILL I SEE YOU ON TV ONE DAY?

MY VOI...
ONE DAY

YOU LAUGH, BUT JUST THINKING ABOUT IT...
HA HA! YOU WORRY TOO MUCH.

SAY, FROM OVERUSE.
WHY WOULD THAT HAPPEN ?

new freshmen

After-noon classes will be

WHAT'S WRONG ?

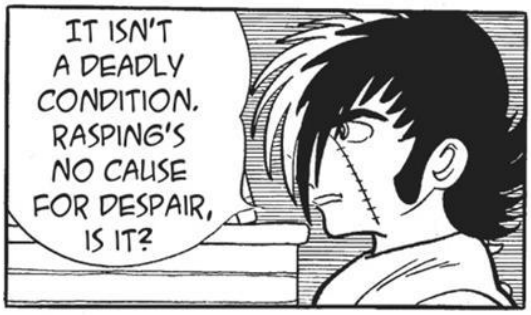
On the coming 22nd, to welcome our

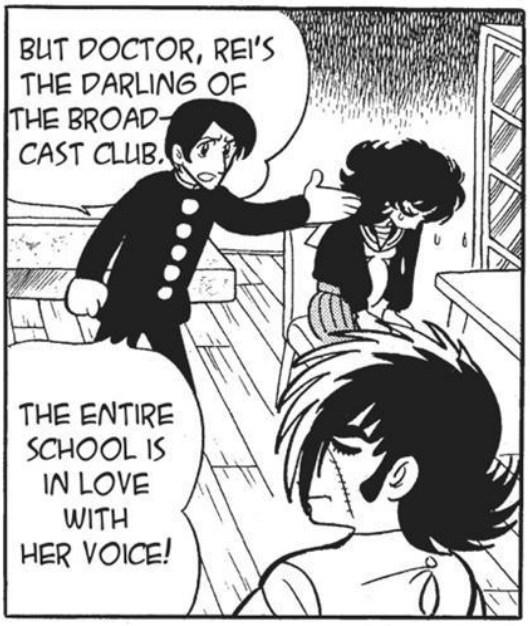
At the welcoming, look forward to Junior Sakurada's...
GARGLE
ガラガラ
WHAT HAPPENED? HER VOICE JUST WENT ALL RASPY.
IT MUST BE THE CHEAP MIC.
L
L
L
L...iLove
WAAAH
Love...iy
MUST BE A GROWTH— YOU NEED TO GO SEE A DOCTOR.
THE RASPING'S JUST GETTING WORSE. CALLING IT "HUSKY" WON'T DO ANYMORE...
W-WON'T HE CUT OPEN MY THROAT?
LUCKILY I HAPPEN TO KNOW ONE. HE'S KINDA SCARY, BUT GOOD.

I WAS AFRAID IT MIGHT BE CANCER OF THE LARYNX, BUT NO.
LOOK, THERE'S NO NEED TO FRET SO.

AA ...

I CAN'T USE MY VOICE ?!


IT ISN'T A DEADLY CONDITION. RASPING'S NO CAUSE FOR DESPAIR, IS IT?

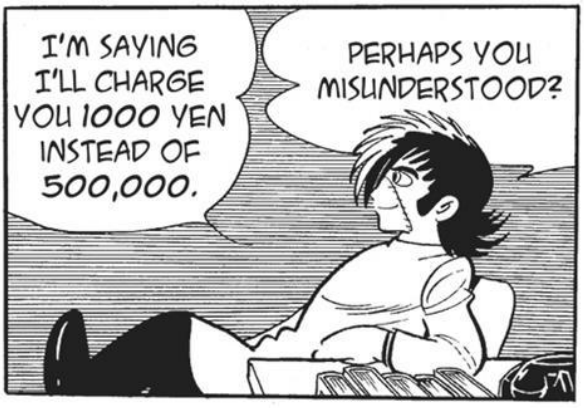

BUT DOCTOR, REI'S THE DARLING OF THE BROAD-CAST CLUB.
THE ENTIRE SCHOOL IS IN LOVE WITH HER VOICE!

IN YOUR THROAT, RIGHT WHERE YOU MAKE YOUR VOICE, THERE'S A GROWTH. IT'S BEEN GETTING LARGER LIKE A BUD, EXERTING PRESSURE.
IT'S CALLED A VOCAL POLYP. IT'S COMMON AMONG PEOPLE WHO USE THEIR VOICES A GREAT DEAL. AS LONG AS YOU DON'T, IT'S NOT THAT DANGEROUS.
glottis

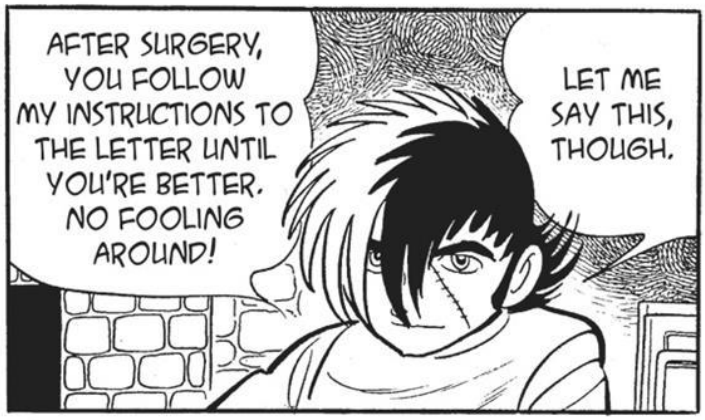
I GUESS WE'D BETTER REMOVE IT, THEN. CAN YOU PAY 500,000 YEN FOR THE SURGERY?

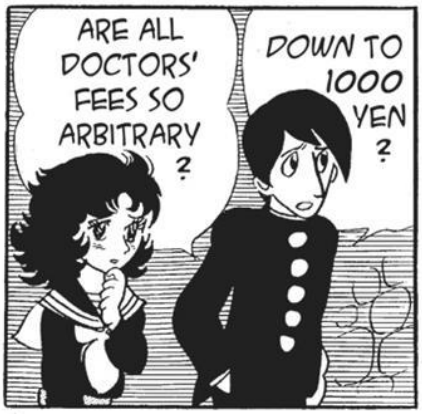
IF SHE CAN'T TALK, SHE MIGHT KILL HERSELF!

ARE YOU KIDDING ?
AND I'M NO INGRATE. I'D LOVE TO CHARGE THE FULL FEE, BUT I'LL GIVE YOU A DISCOUNT. 1000 YEN.
AH, BUT YOUR GRANDFATHER WAS MY MENTOR ...


I'M SAYING I'LL CHARGE YOU 1000 YEN INSTEAD OF 500,000.
PERHAPS YOU MISUNDERSTOOD?

THIS IS ABSURD. LET'S GO.

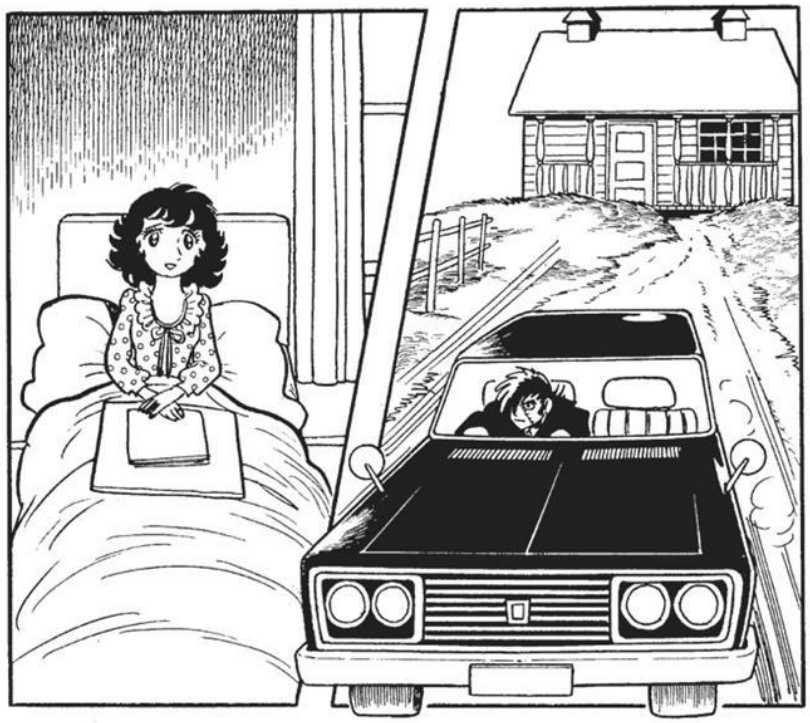

AFTER SURGERY, YOU FOLLOW MY INSTRUCTIONS TO THE LETTER UNTIL YOU'RE BETTER. NO FOOLING AROUND!
LET ME SAY THIS, THOUGH.


ARE ALL DOCTORS' FEES SO ARBITRARY ?
DOWN TO 1000 YEN ?

THANK YOU, I'M SO RELIEVED.

WE'LL BE TREATING YOUR THROAT WITH A NEBULIZER FOR A WHILE.

HOW LONG?

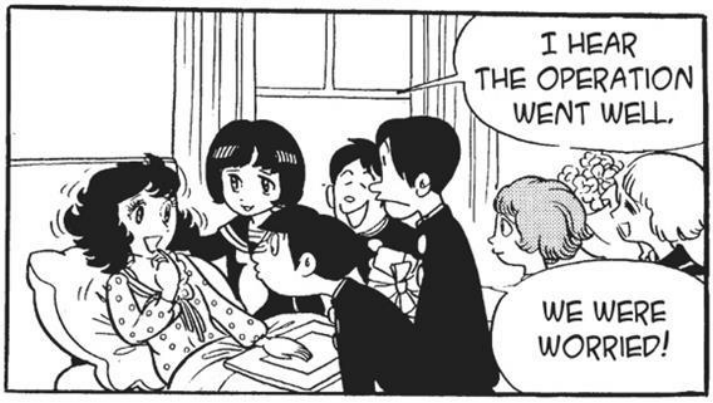


PROVIDED YOU GIVE YOUR VOICE ABSOLUTE REST, YOU'LL BE HOME IN A FEW WEEKS.

CON-GRATS!
HEYA, REI!

THANK GOD ...

CONGRATU-LATIONS. I'M SO GLAD FOR YOU.


I HEAR THE OPERATION WENT WELL.
WE WERE WORRIED!

HOO HOO HOO
ハハハハハハ
ヘヘヘヘヘヘ
ヘヘヘヘヘヘ

REI STILL CAN'T TALK, SO LAY OFF WITH THE QUESTIONS!
LISTEN UP, Y'ALL...

TELL HER FUNNY STORIES!
IN THAT CASE, WE'LL JUST...

HA HA HA
HA HA HA
HA HA HA
HA HA HA
HOO HOO
UH UH
OO-HOO HOO!
KOFF... HACK...
EE-HEE-HEE!
A-HA-HA-HA!
PFFAAH!
HA HA HA!
TEE HEE HEE!
KOFF KOFF
KOFF!
HACK
HAKK

I WARNED YOU EXPLICITLY NOT TO USE YOUR VOICE...
AND YOU YUKKED IT UP WITH YOUR FRIENDS?
WHAT HAVE YOU DONE ?!
THERE ARE PATIENTS OUT THERE FIGHTING TOOTH AND NAIL FOR THEIR LIVES, AND DOCTORS WHO'RE FIGHTING TOOTH AND NAIL TO SAVE THEM!
WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE ?!
IT HURTS ?
LET ME SEE.
JUST AS I THOUGHT. BLOOD-RED. IT'S INFLAMED.
LISTEN, YOUNG LADY!
THAT WAS ONE WASTED SURGERY, THANK YOU.
OH, YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'LL SUFFER.
I'M SO SORRY, DOCTOR.
YOU WERE TO FOLLOW MY INSTRUCTIONS.

AGHH...
UGH ...!
ガ ジ ガ ジ
URKK!
YOU'VE DONE IT...
URKK... ARKK!
UHHH!
RAWK !
ACK! ARGG
EKK!
VOCAL CORD PARALYSIS. THAT'S YOUR REWARD FOR IGNORING MY ORDERS.
RAWK! AGKT!
IN FACT, THERE IS STILL ONE WAY.
ARRKK! ERRKK!
YOU'LL SOUND LIKE A TOAD FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE.
UGG UGG

IF I IMPLANT THIS, YOU'LL HAVE ANY VOICE YOU WANT ...
AN ARTIFICIAL VOICE BOX.

I HAVE HERE ...

GWAK! ARKK!

A WHOLE YEAR! CAN YOU DO IT?
IF YOU KEEP YOUR PROMISE FOR A YEAR, I'LL LET YOU HAVE IT.
IF YOU SWEAR NOT TO USE YOUR VOICE FOR A YEAR, NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS—

ARK...
GWAA ...

I'LL GIVE UP ON YOU!
IF YOU BREAK YOUR PROMISE, YOUR THROAT IS FINISHED!

ARKK
UGG

...

YOUR LIFE HANGED ON IT!
THIS TIME OBEY ME AS IF

POOR THING, SHE'S MUTE.
SHALL I WRAP IT UP OR NOT?
COME WATCH, IT'S SO FUNNY!
DOESN'T EVEN SCREAM ...
TACI-TURN...
ASATO !
THE CLUB MISSES YOU, REI.
COULD YOU DO JUST ONE LITTLE SHOW?
HEY, COME HANG OUT WITH US!
YOU KNOW THEY SAY SHE'S MUTE.
THAT ASATO FROM Y HIGH IS A REAL CUTIE!
JUST PERFECT, AIN'T IT.

HOW CONVENIENT! SHE CAN'T EVEN SCREAM FOR HELP!
ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY YES OR NO?
SORRY, WE DON'T READ SIGNS.
TAKE HER CLOTHES OFF! NEVER MET A QUIETER GIRL, HEH HEH!
HEY !
DARN !
TOM !

SHE'S BEEN MUTE FOR A WHOLE YEAR.
I GUESS IT'S OVER FOR REI.
VOICE BOX? YOU MEAN THIS?
CAN I PLEASE HAVE THE VOICE BOX?
A-HA. YOU'VE BEEN VERY PATIENT!
HEY! WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
I LIED!
HA HA HA. THIS IS NO SUCH THING. IT'S JUST A TUBE.

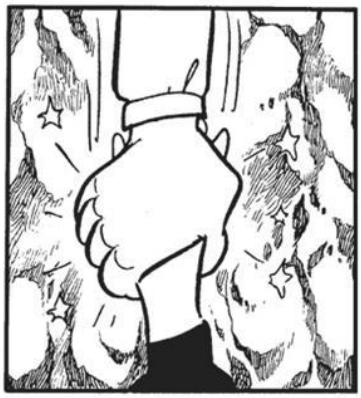
AAAAH!
SLIP
WAIT! WATCH OUT !!
COME BACK!

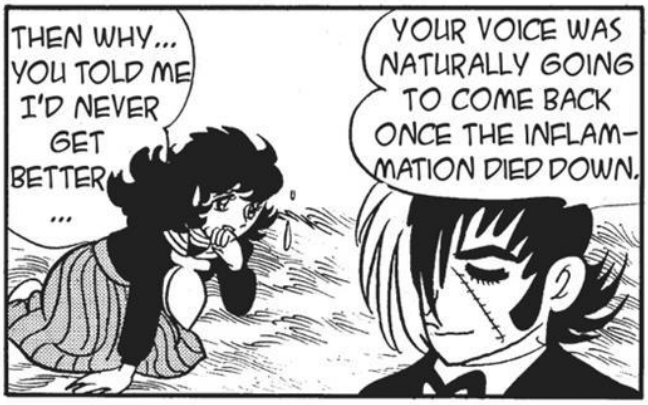
M-MY VOICE ...

AIIEEEEE!

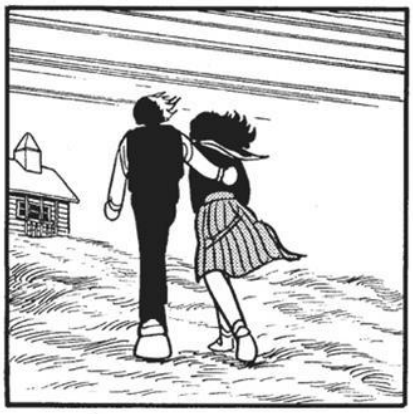
I... I CAN TALK AGAIN !!
DOC-TOR !!

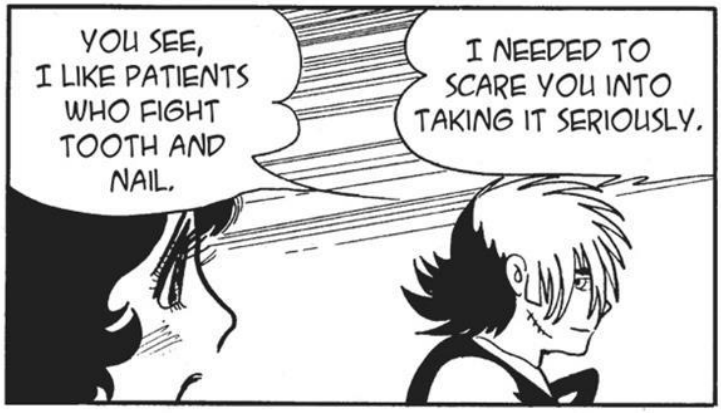
HOLD TIGHT !




THEN WHY... YOU TOLD ME I'D NEVER GET BETTER ...
YOUR VOICE WAS NATURALLY GOING TO COME BACK ONCE THE INFLAM-MATION DIED DOWN.

OF COURSE IT IS.
IT'S MY ORIGINAL VOICE !



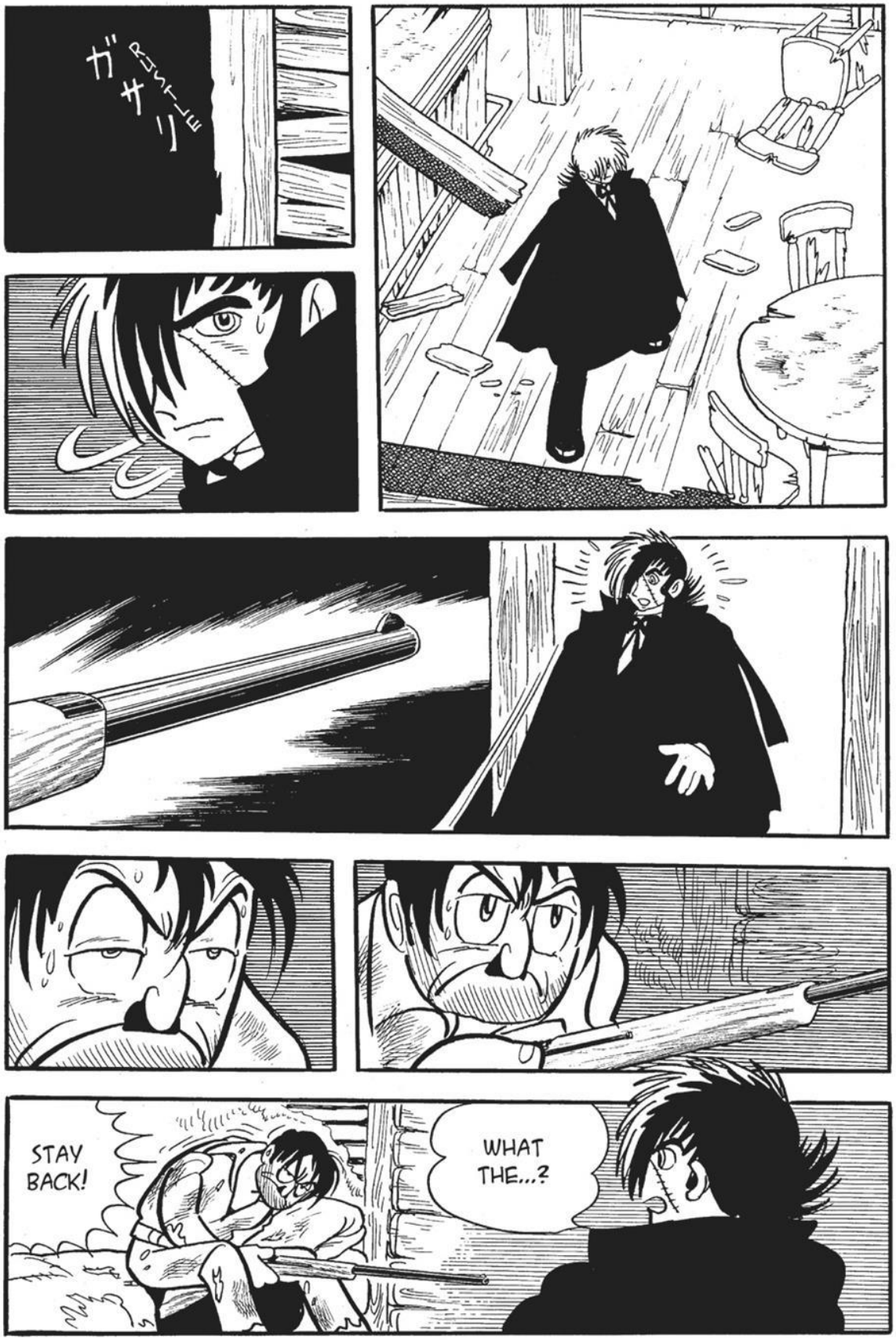

YOU SEE, I LIKE PATIENTS WHO FIGHT TOOTH AND NAIL.
I NEEDED TO SCARE YOU INTO TAKING IT SERIOUSLY.

DRIFTER IN A GHOST TOWN

WHOOOOOOO
WSHHH
DAMN, WHAT A PLACE TO BE OUT OF WATER ...
VWSHHH
WHSHHH

WHOOO
OAKTOWN
WHOOO
WHOOO
WHOOSH
WHSHHHH
NOT MUCH CHANCE OF FINDING GAS OR WATER HERE...
A GHOST TOWN...

WHSHH
TUMBLE-WEED...
WHSHH
WHAT'S THIS NOW?
HUH, A GHOST ...
'TIS A GHOST TOWN, SIR.
WHOOSH
THIS ONE ALMOST REMINDS ME OF HOME. I COULD EVEN RELAX HERE.
CLOSE ENOUGH.
I HALF EXPECT TO FIND PINOKO ...


ガサリ
STAY BACK!
WHAT THE...?

TOSS IT OVER OR I'LL SHOOT!

NOW !
HAND OVER THAT BAG

...

WHUT'S THIS?
NO BEER, HUH ?

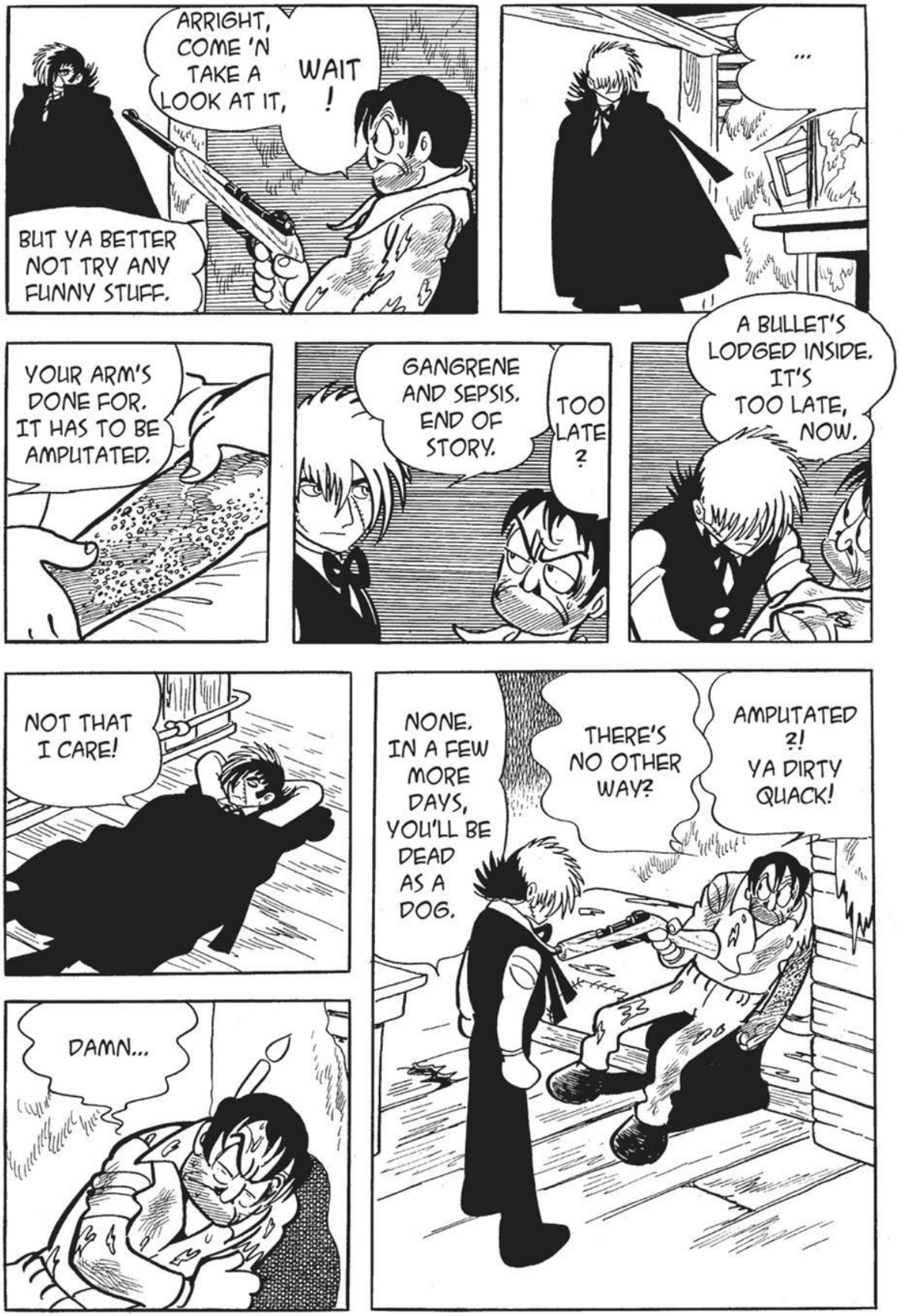
DEIM

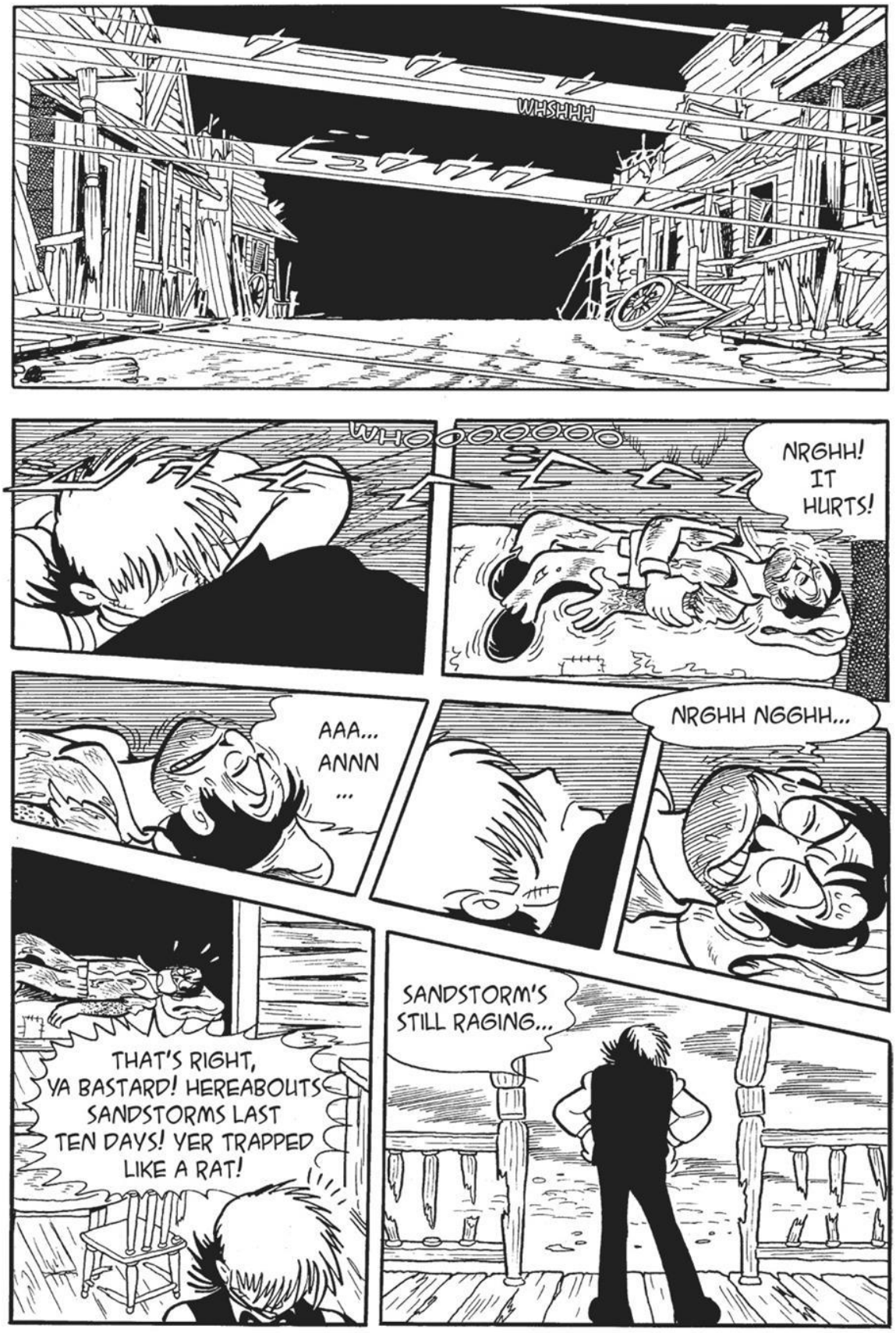
WHICH ONE'S FOR WOUNDS? SHOW IT HERE!
NO OINTMENTS. IT'S ALL INJECTABLES. MAINLY ANESTHETICS.

YER A DOCTOR ?

IS YOUR LEFT ARM WOUNDED? HOW'D IT HAPPEN ?
DAMN. YER USELESS, AIN'T YA ?
SHUT UP AND STAY BACK!

TRY THEM AND SEE. THEY WON'T HELP.
LIAR!


ARRIGHT, COME 'N TAKE A LOOK AT IT,
WAIT !
BUT YA BETTER NOT TRY ANY FUNNY STUFF.
...
YOUR ARM'S DONE FOR. IT HAS TO BE AMPUTATED.
GANGRENE AND SEPSIS. END OF STORY.
TOO LATE ?
A BULLET'S LODGED INSIDE. IT'S TOO LATE, NOW.
NOT THAT I CARE!
DAMN...
NONE. IN A FEW MORE DAYS, YOU'LL BE DEAD AS A DOG.
THERE'S NO OTHER WAY?
AMPUTATED ?! YA DIRTY QUACK!

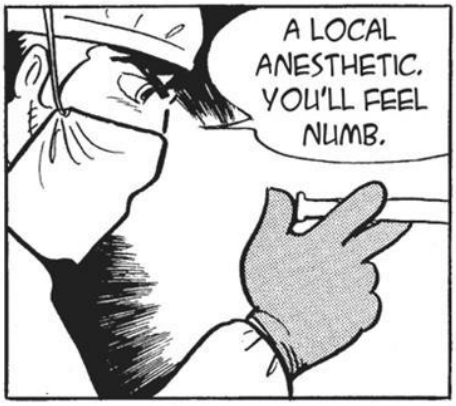

WHSHHH
WHOOOOOOOO
NRGHH! IT HURTS!
AAA... ANNN ...
NRGHH NGGHH...
THAT'S RIGHT, YA BASTARD! HEREABOUTS SANDSTORMS LAST TEN DAYS! YER TRAPPED LIKE A RAT!
SANDSTORM'S STILL RAGING...

YOU WERE DELIRIOUS, MUMBLING "ANNN..."
ON YOUR DEATH-BED AND STILL TALKING TRASH, EH?
WHAT ?!
BUT YER GONNA WIND UP A CORPSE HERE, TOO.
YA SAID I'D DIE IN A FEW MORE DAYS
NOT THAT YA CAN!
I'M SICK OF YER UGLY MUG, DOC! GET LOST, WILL YA?
SHUT YER MOUTH !
WERE YOU DREAMING OF ANCHOVIES?
ビュウウウウ
WHHRRR
WHSHH
THWAP
YIKES!
ポタリ
PLOP

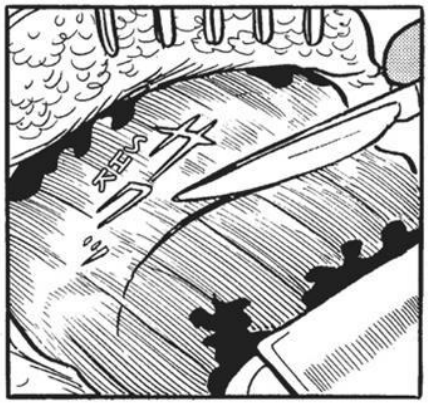
NRGGHH... AAA... ANNN... I MISS YOU ...
ANN... I'M HOME!
NGG... ARGH...
PLIP
I'M SORRY, DOC. PLEASE, CUT OFF MY ARM. IF YA CUT IT OFF, WILL IT STOP HURTIN' SO BAD?
OH? I'VE GONE FROM "QUACK" TO "DOC-TOR"?
D... DOCTOR ...
I-IF YA DO IT, I'LL TELL YA... HOW TO LEAVE THIS TOWN!
NOT ON YOUR LIFE. FOR ONE THING, I DON'T WORK FOR CHEAP!
PLEASE OPERATE ON ME!

I CAN GET OUT THROUGH THE SAND-STORM?
YES, I SWEAR!

I'LL TELL YA IF YA AMPUTATE MY ARM... HONEST TO GOD!
HOW?

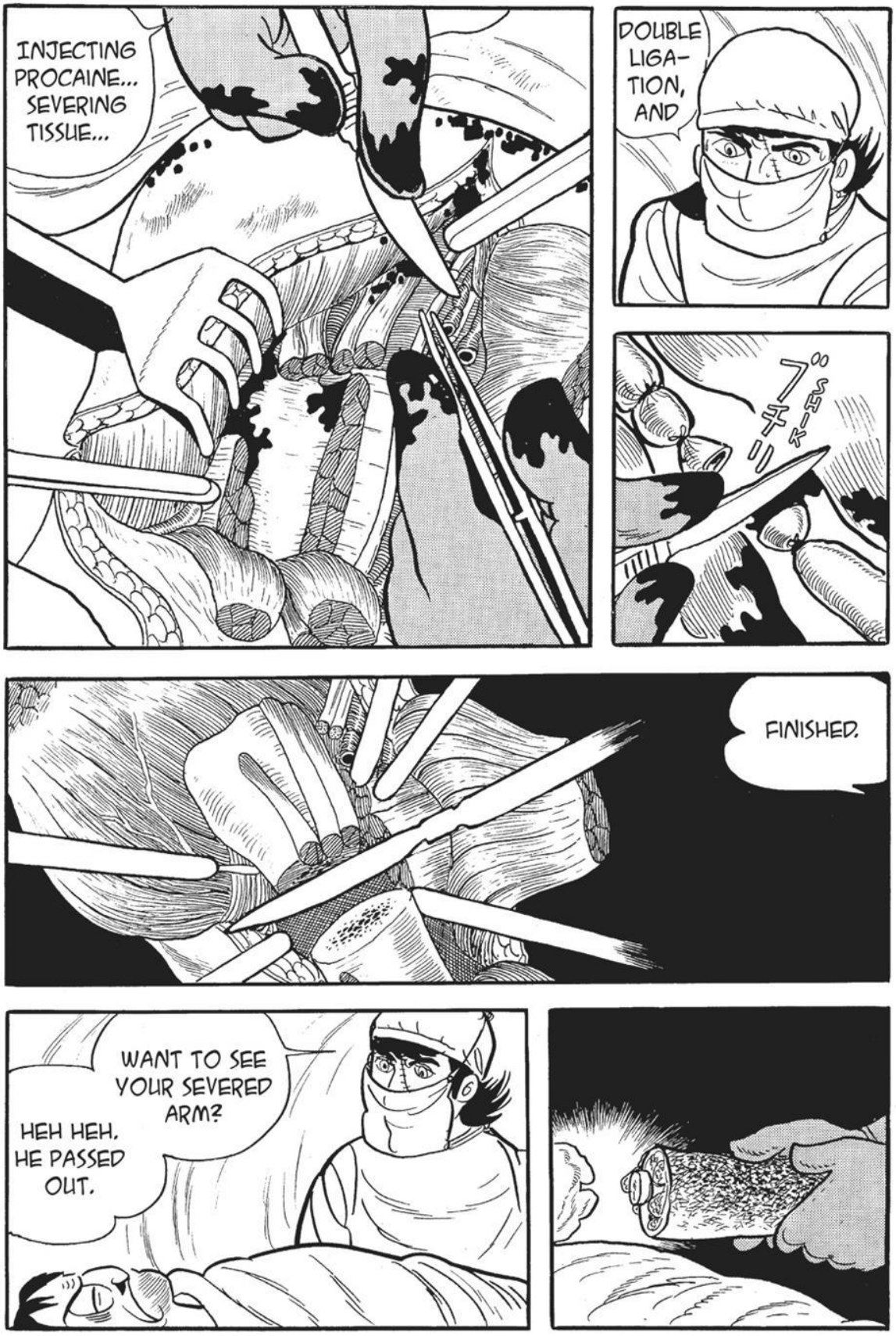

A LOCAL ANESTHETIC. YOU'LL FEEL NUMB.

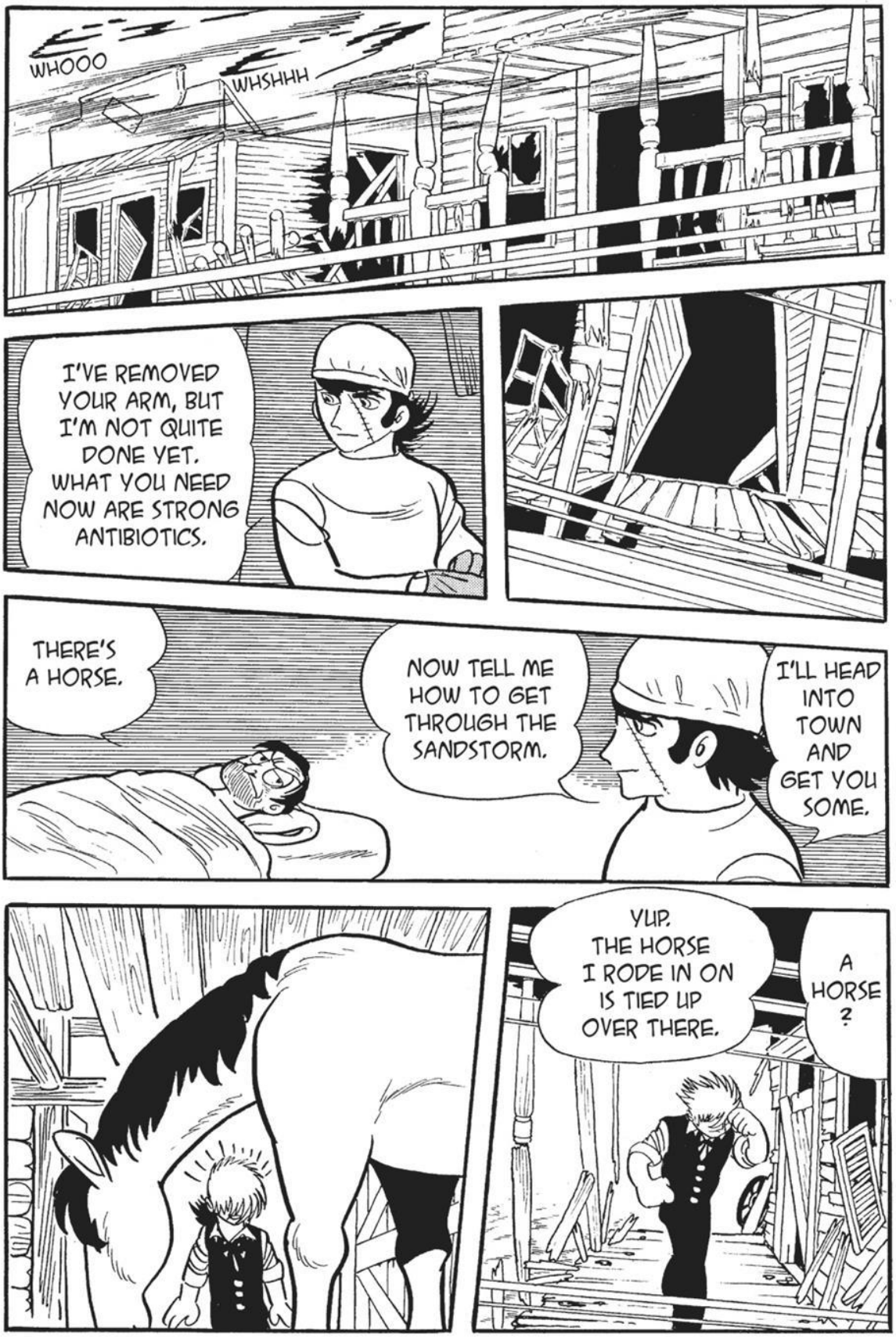
I DON'T HAVE MUCH TO WORK WITH.
NO GUARANTEES, BUT I'LL DO WHAT I CAN.


スキャン

スキャン

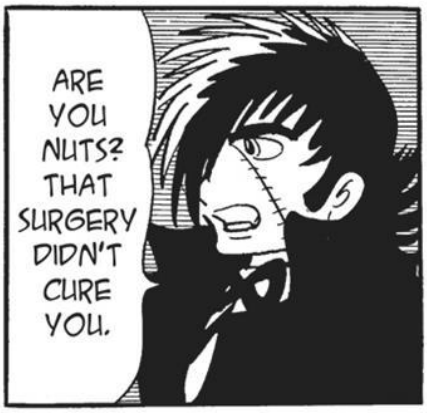
NOT THAT IT MATTERS ...
YELL IF IT HURTS.


INJECTING PROCAINE... SEVERING TISSUE...
DOUBLE LIGA-TION, AND
ブチッ
FINISHED.
WANT TO SEE YOUR SEVERED ARM?
HEH HEH. HE PASSED OUT.

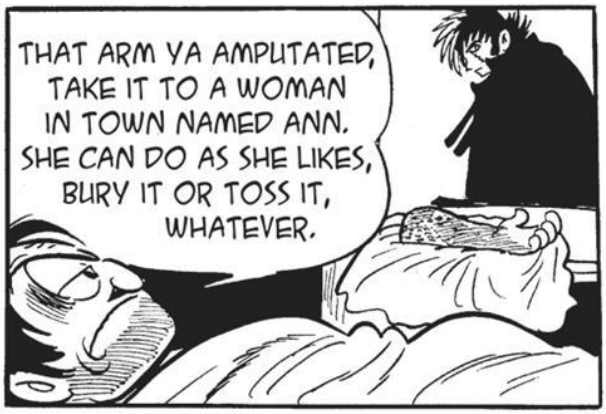

WHOOO
WHSHHH
I'VE REMOVED YOUR ARM, BUT I'M NOT QUITE DONE YET. WHAT YOU NEED NOW ARE STRONG ANTIBIOTICS.
THERE'S A HORSE.
NOW TELL ME HOW TO GET THROUGH THE SANDSTORM.
I'LL HEAD INTO TOWN AND GET YOU SOME.
YUP. THE HORSE I RODE IN ON IS TIED UP OVER THERE.
A HORSE ?

WOW. NEVER EVEN NOTICED...

AIN'T NO NEED. YA DONE PLENTY.
NO ...
DON'T COME BACK.

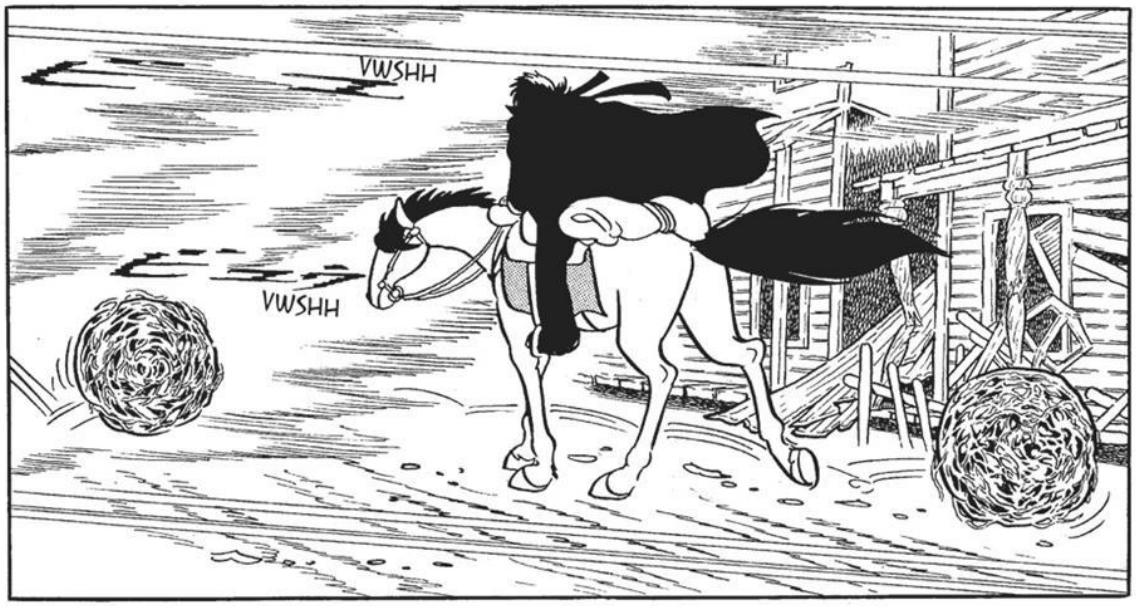

ARE YOU NUTS? THAT SURGERY DIDN'T CURE YOU.

BUT I'M NOT DONE TREATING YOU YET.
I'LL TAKE THAT HORSE AS MY FEE,
I'LL BE BACK. HOLD TIGHT.

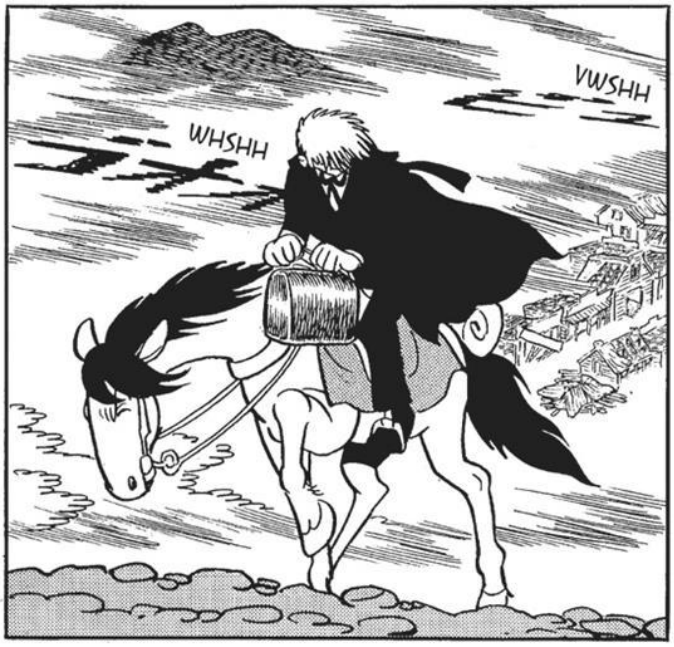

THAT ARM YA AMPUTATED, TAKE IT TO A WOMAN IN TOWN NAMED ANN. SHE CAN DO AS SHE LIKES, BURY IT OR TOSS IT, WHATEVER.

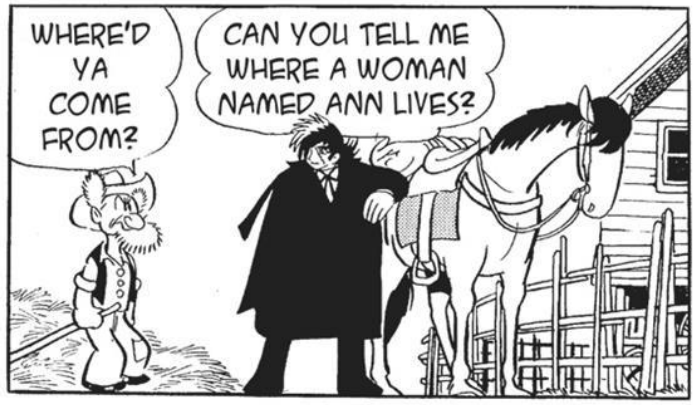
I DO HAVE A FAVOR TO ASK...
I'M GRATEFUL TO YA, DOC...

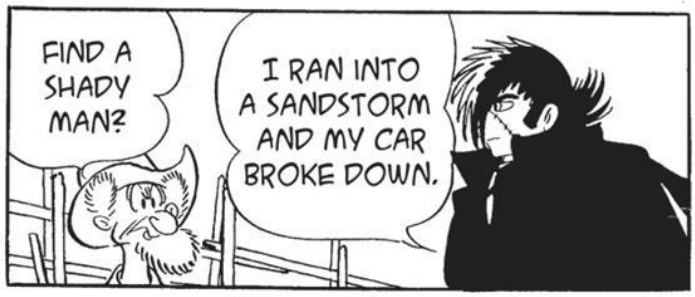
AND DON'T BE COMIN' THIS WAY AGAIN.

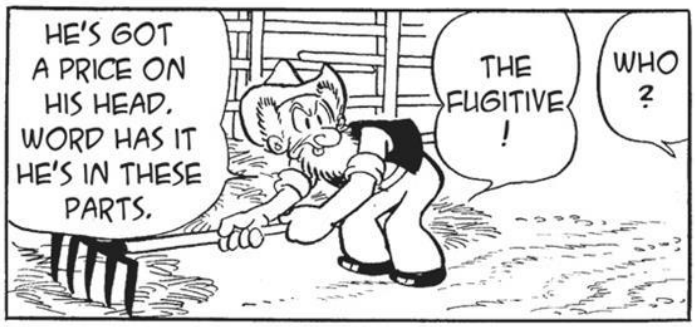

VWSHH
VWSHH

WOO-OOO
WOOO


VWSHH
WHSHH

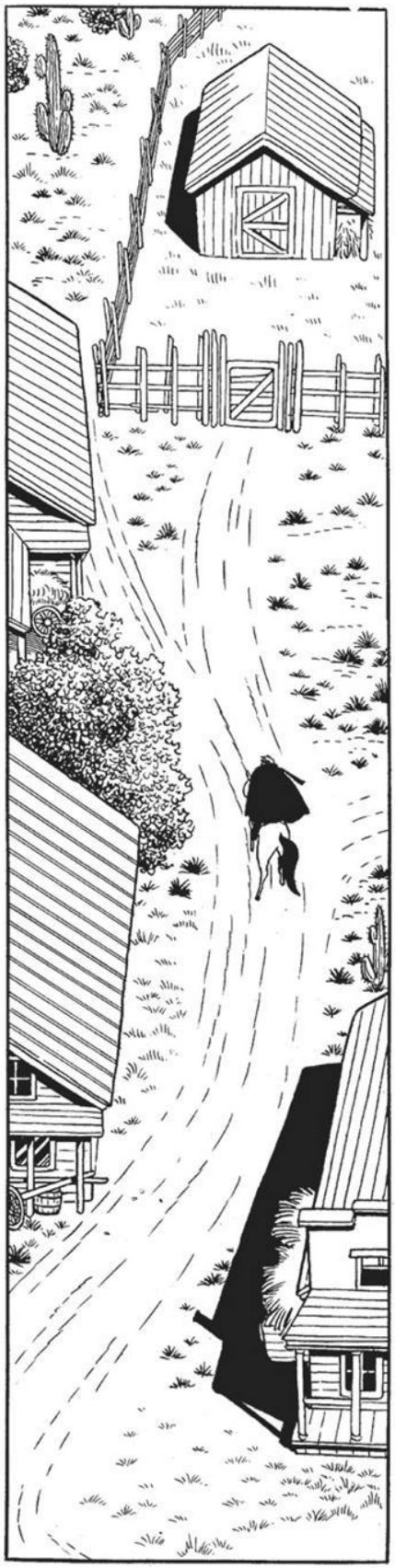

WHERE'D YA COME FROM?
CAN YOU TELL ME WHERE A WOMAN NAMED ANN LIVES?

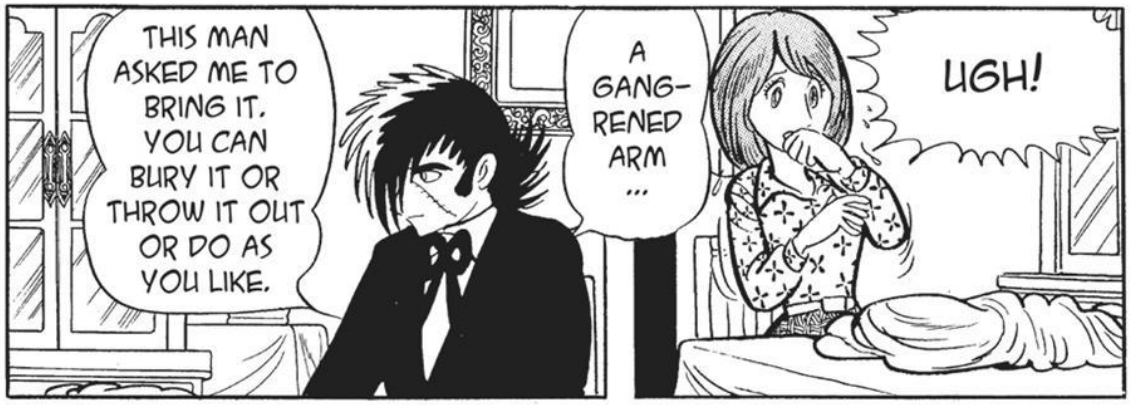

FIND A SHADY MAN?
I RAN INTO A SANDSTORM AND MY CAR BROKE DOWN.

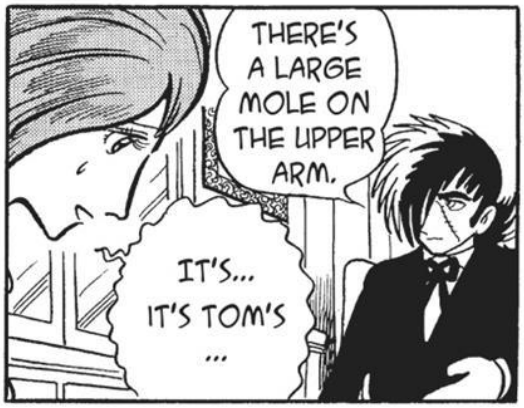

HE'S GOT A PRICE ON HIS HEAD. WORD HAS IT HE'S IN THESE PARTS.
THE FUGITIVE!
WHO?

JUST AROUND THAT NEXT CORNER.
YOU MUST BE LOOKING FOR ANN SMITH.

I WAS ASKED TO BRING YOU SOME-THING ...
YES, I'M ANN SMITH.



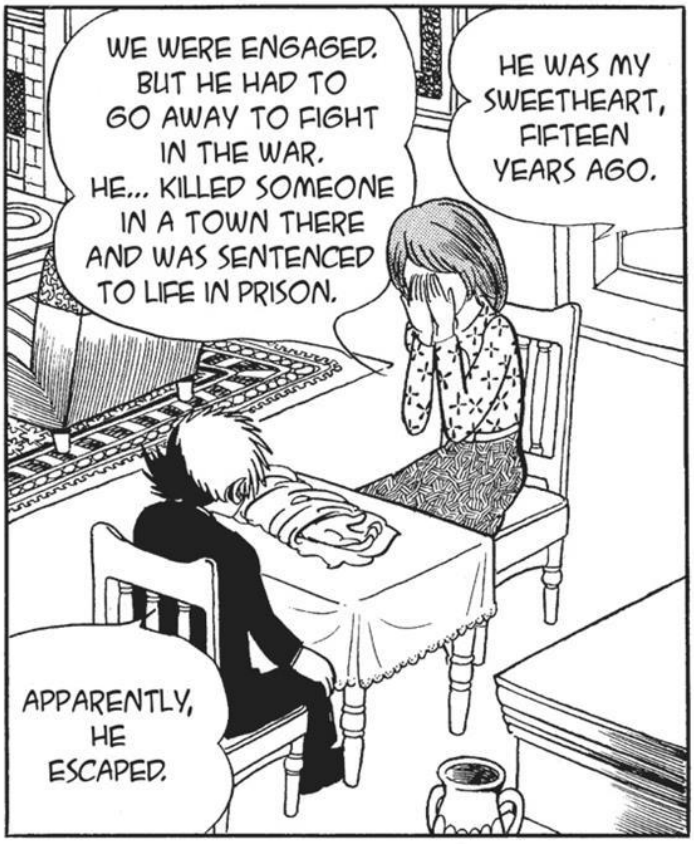

THIS MAN ASKED ME TO BRING IT. YOU CAN BURY IT OR THROW IT OUT OR DO AS YOU LIKE.
A GANG-RENED ARM ...
UGH!

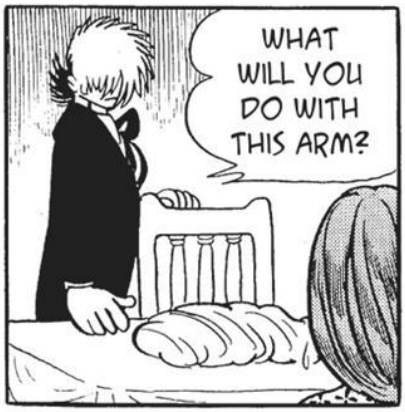

THERE'S A LARGE MOLE ON THE UPPER ARM.
IT'S... IT'S TOM'S ...

...

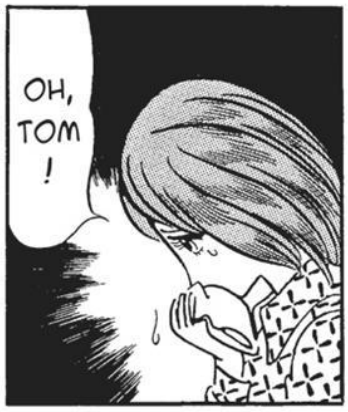
YES. SO I HEAR. AND NOW HE'S A WANTED MAN.

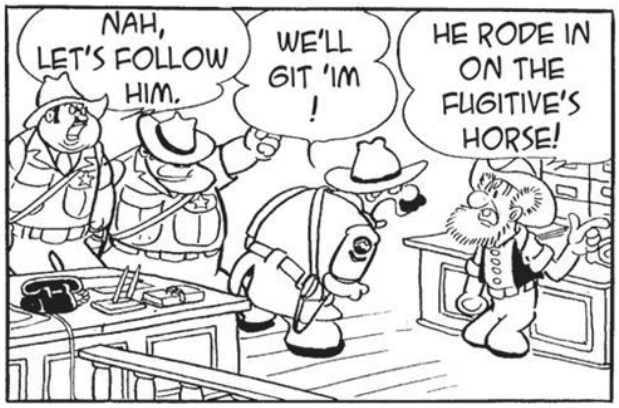
HE WAS SHOT. THE WOUND FESTERED AND NEARLY KILLED HIM.

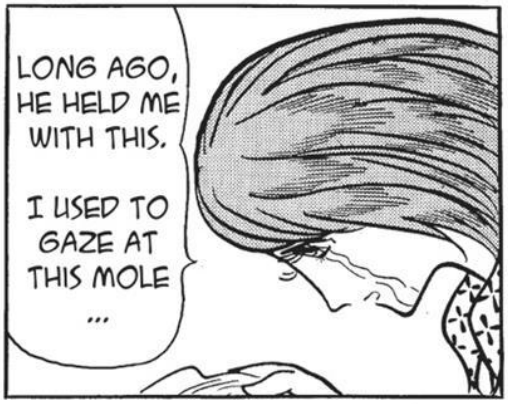

WE WERE ENGAGED. BUT HE HAD TO GO AWAY TO FIGHT IN THE WAR. HE... KILLED SOMEONE IN A TOWN THERE AND WAS SENTENCED TO LIFE IN PRISON.
HE WAS MY SWEETHEART, FIFTEEN YEARS AGO.
APPARENTLY, HE ESCAPED.


WHAT WILL YOU DO WITH THIS ARM?

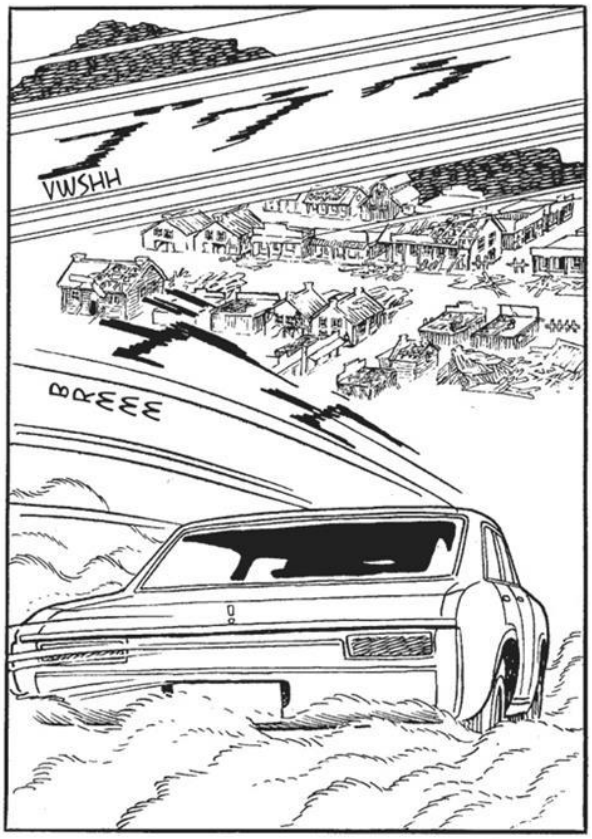
HE WOULDN'T STOP CALLING YOUR NAME. HE MISSES YOU TERRIBLY.

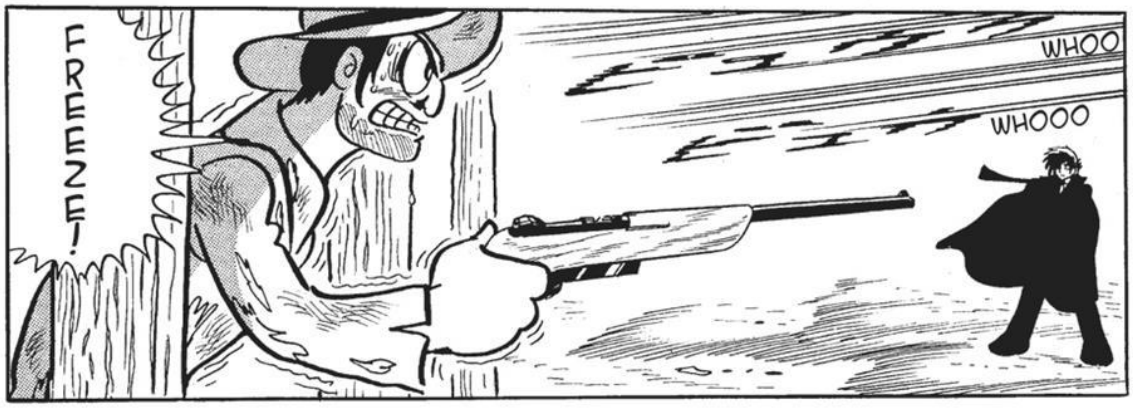

OH, TOM !


NAH, LET'S FOLLOW HIM.
WE'LL GIT 'IM !
HE RODE IN ON THE FUGITIVE'S HORSE!

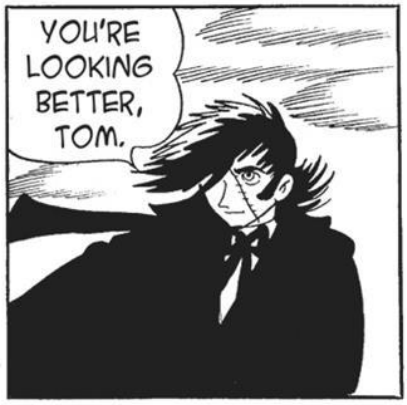

LONG AGO, HE HELD ME WITH THIS.
I USED TO GAZE AT THIS MOLE ...

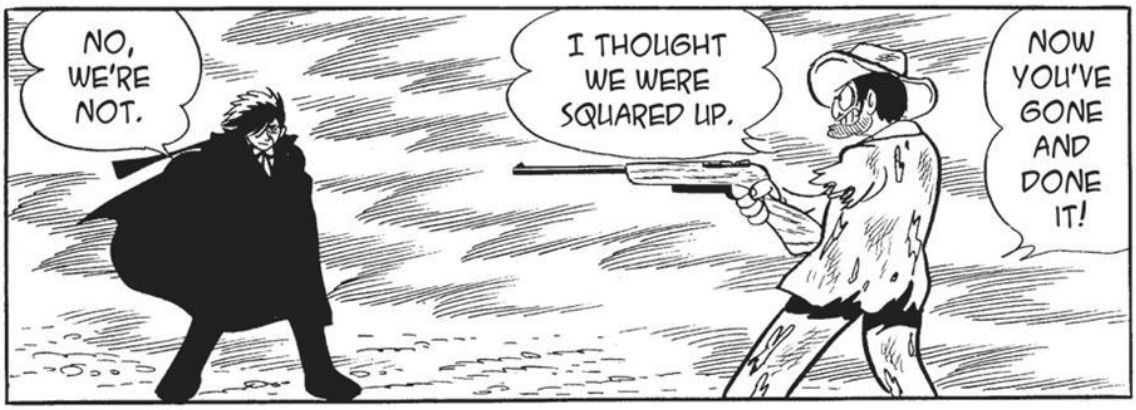
SALOON
WHOO
WHOOO


VWSHH
BREEE

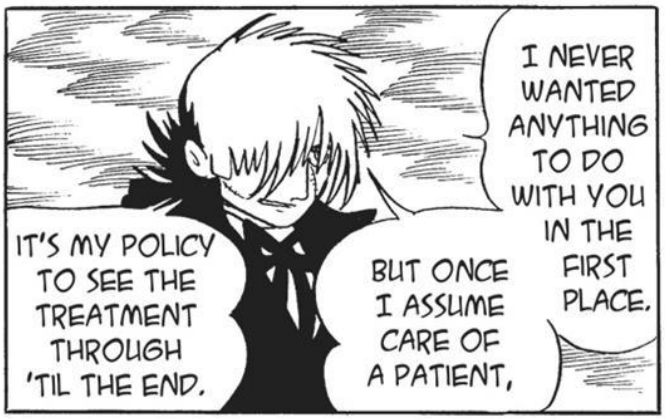

FREEZE!
WHOO
WHOOO

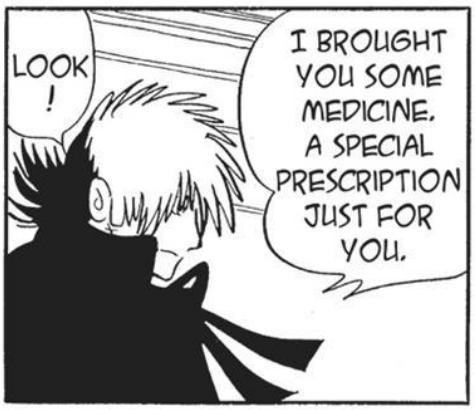
DIDN'T I WARN YA TO STAY AWAY ?
DOC! WHY'D YA COME BACK ?

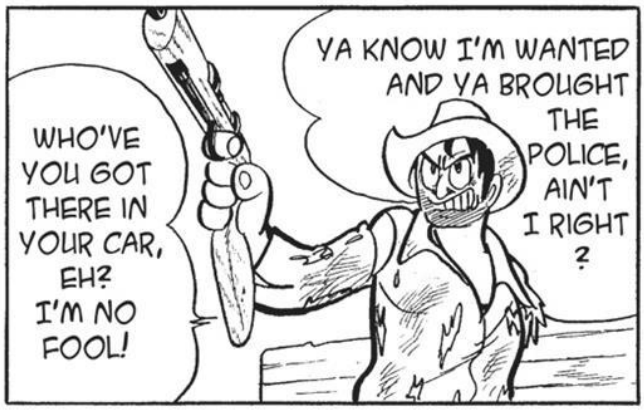

YOU'RE LOOKING BETTER, TOM.


NO, WE'RE NOT.
I THOUGHT WE WERE SQUARED UP.
NOW YOU'VE GONE AND DONE IT!

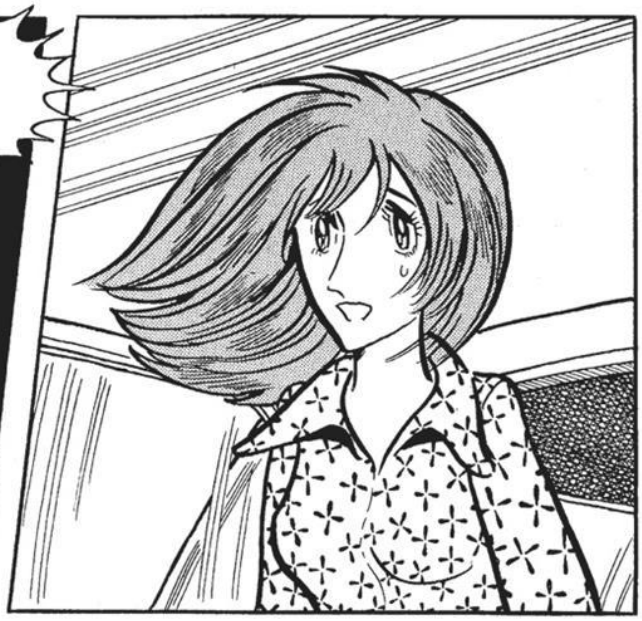
YOU CAN'T FOOL ME, DOC!


I NEVER WANTED ANYTHING TO DO WITH YOU IN THE FIRST PLACE.
BUT ONCE I ASSUME CARE OF A PATIENT,
IT'S MY POLICY TO SEE THE TREATMENT THROUGH 'TIL THE END.


LOOK !
I BROUGHT YOU SOME MEDICINE. A SPECIAL PRESCRIPTION JUST FOR YOU.


YA KNOW I'M WANTED AND YA BROUGHT THE POLICE, AIN'T I RIGHT ?
WHO'VE YOU GOT THERE IN YOUR CAR, EH? I'M NO FOOL!

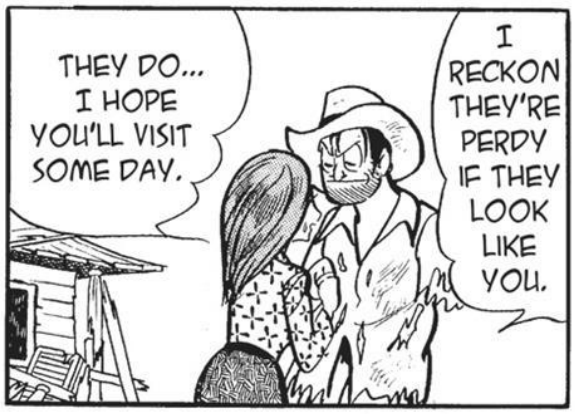
ANN

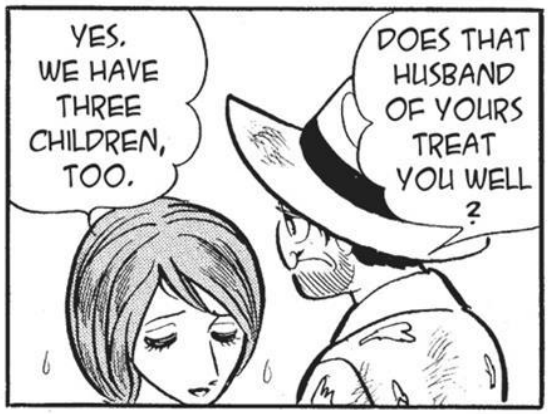


ANN!
TOM!

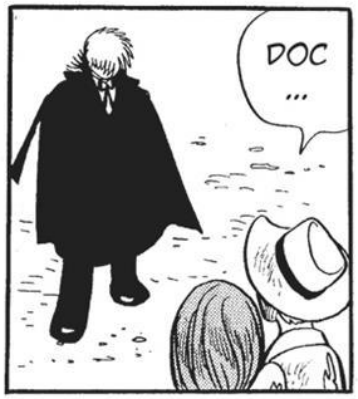
...

YOU LOOK WELL.
I AM.
ANN ...

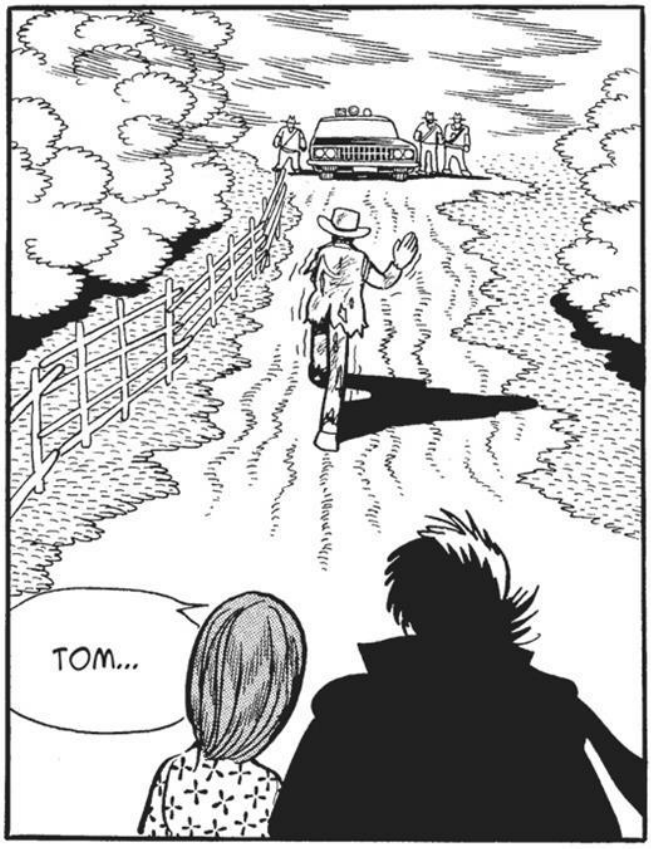

THEY DO... I HOPE YOU'LL VISIT SOME DAY.
I RECKON THEY'RE PERDY IF THEY LOOK LIKE YOU.

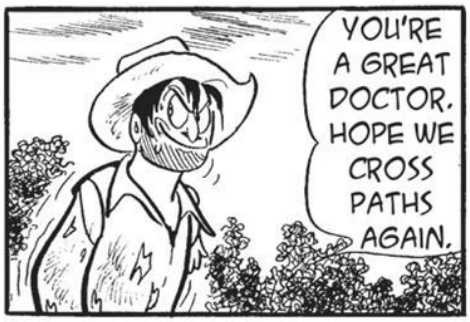

YES. WE HAVE THREE CHILDREN, TOO.
DOES THAT HUSBAND OF YOURS TREAT YOU WELL ?

SURE DID. LIKE A CHARM.
DID THE MEDICINE WORK?
NO MORE REGRETS.


DOC ...

I SURE WILL. JUST AS SOON AS I GET PARDONED ...

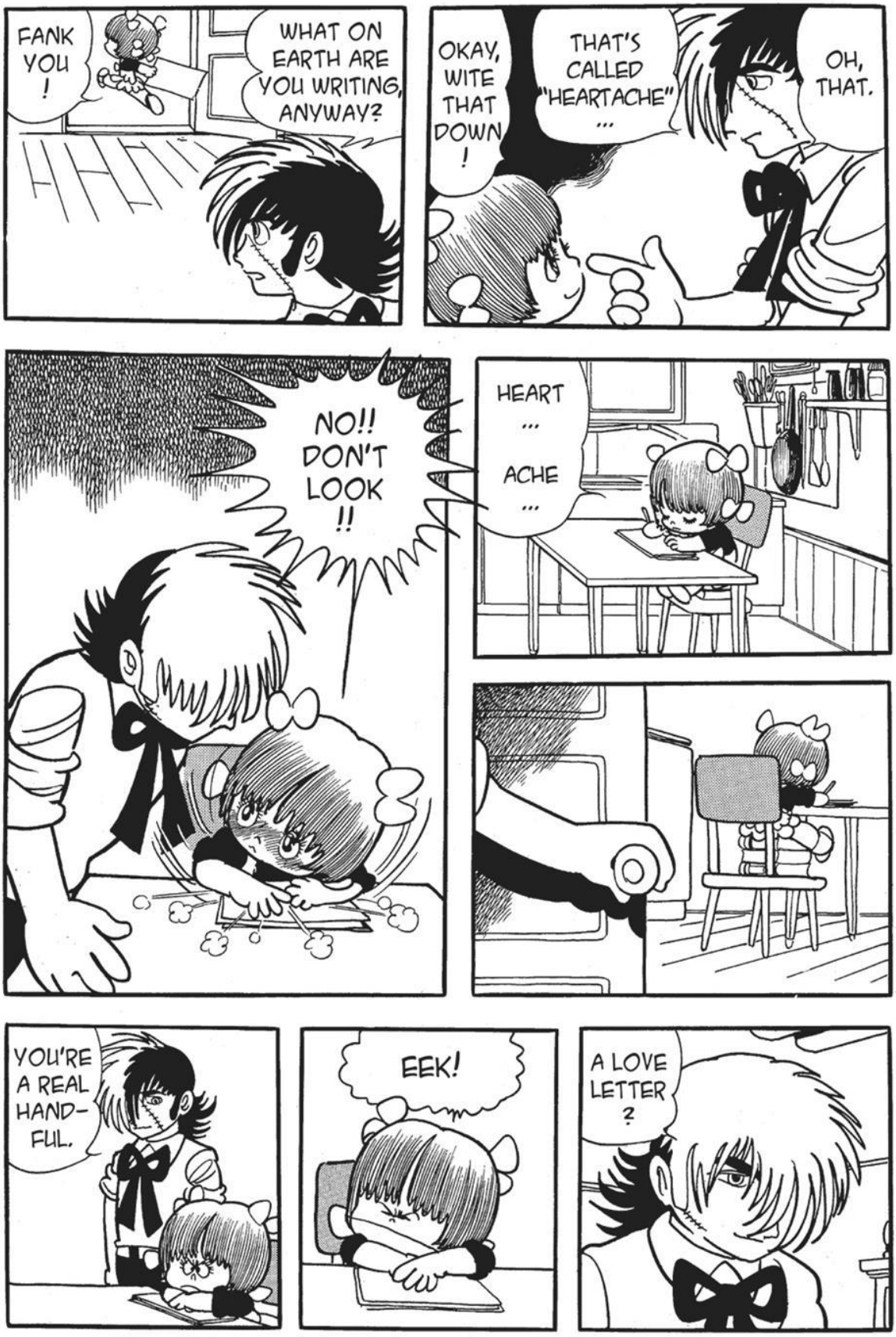

TOM...


YOU'RE A GREAT DOCTOR. HOPE WE CROSS PATHS AGAIN.

I'M NOT EXACTLY FOREIGN TO PRISON, MYSELF.
I THINK I'LL PASS ...

PINOKO LOVE STORY

DOCTOR? HOW DO YOU WITE "MOOCHAL" ?
MOO-CHAL ?
FANKS !
JUST WITE IT FOR ME!
WHY DO YOU NEED TO KNOW?
LIKE IN MOOCHAL LOVE!
NO! LIKE WHEN YOU LOVE SHO MUCH IT HUWTS!
YOU MEAN ENGLISH ?
NOW SHOW ME HOW TO WITE ANGWISH!


FANK YOU !
WHAT ON EARTH ARE YOU WRITING, ANYWAY?
OKAY, WITE THAT DOWN !
THAT'S CALLED "HEARTACHE" ...
OH, THAT.
NO!! DON'T LOOK !!
HEART ... ACHE ...
YOU'RE A REAL HAND-FUL.
EEK!
A LOVE LETTER ?

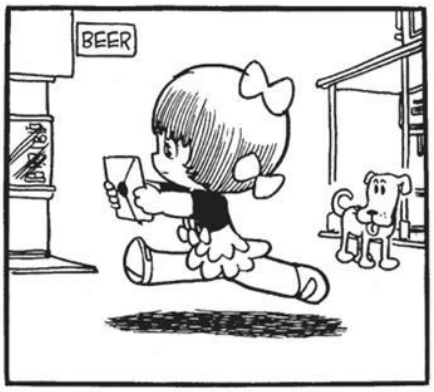
PINOKO IS 18! OF COURSH I HAVE A SHWEETIE!
DON'T ASHK SHO MANY QUESTIONS!!

DO YOU HAVE A CRUSH?
WHO'S IT FOR ?

I'M MAILING IT.
IT'S A PWIVATE MATTER ...

I'M YOUR GUARD-IAN !
C'MON, PINOKO... YOU CAN TELL ME.

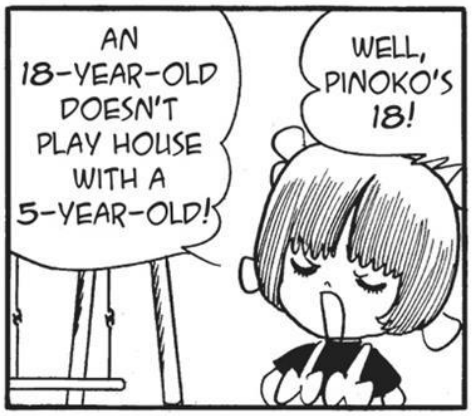
THERE, A FOUR-LEAF CLOVER.


BEER

I'LL BE WAITING HERE!

I'M BUSY.
WANNA PLAY ?
DOING CHORES ?

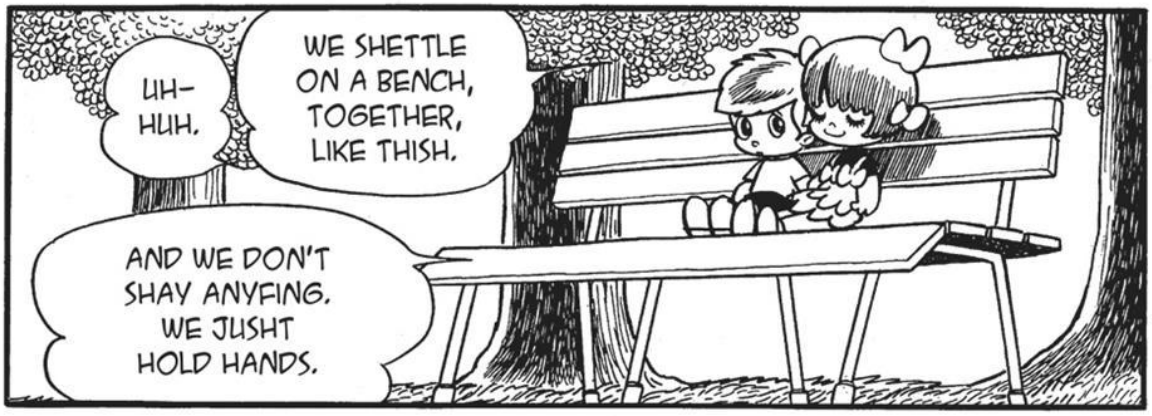
FIVE.
HOW OLD ARE YOU?

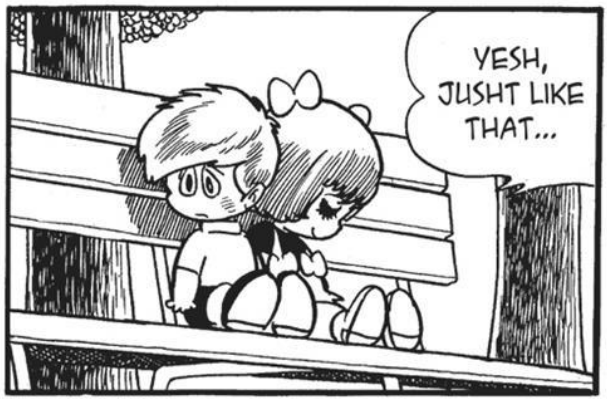

AN 18-YEAR-OLD DOESN'T PLAY HOUSE WITH A 5-YEAR-OLD!
WELL, PINOKO'S 18!

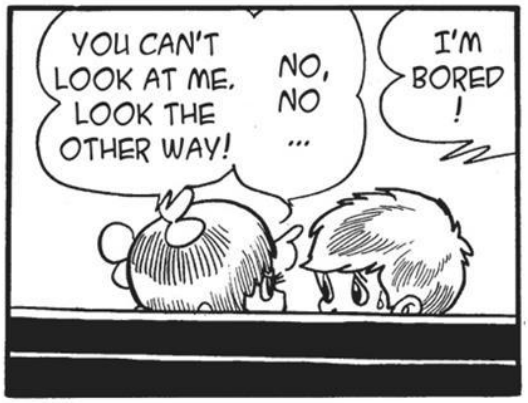
WHATCHA WANNA PLAY?
WANNA PLAY HOUSE ?
HOW 'BOUT THE SWINGS?
THAT SHTUFF'S FOR KIDS!
HOW ABOUT RIDDLES ?

HOW DO YOU PLAY THAT?
I DIDN'T SHAY I WOULDN'T PLAY WITH YOU.
WE CAN PLAY SHWEET-HEARTS.

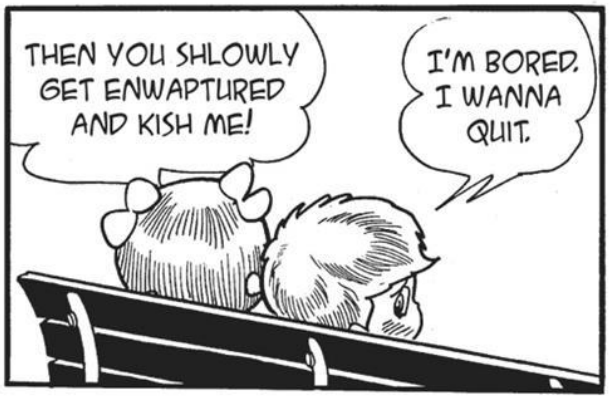
WAAH!


UH-HUH.
WE SHETTLE ON A BENCH, TOGETHER, LIKE THISH.
AND WE DON'T SHAY ANYFING. WE JUSHT HOLD HANDS.

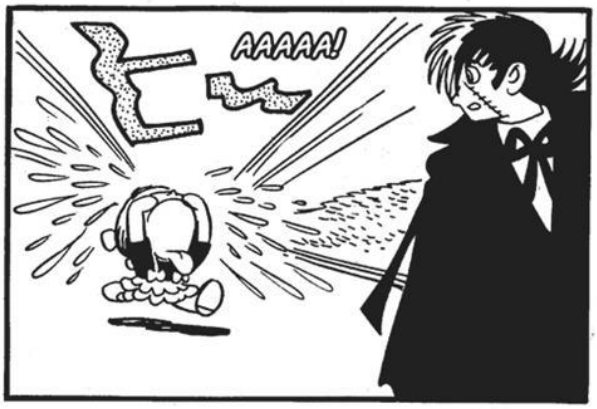

YESH, JUSHT LIKE THAT...

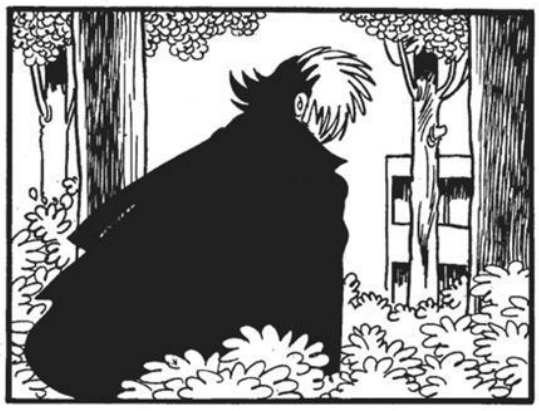

YOU CAN'T LOOK AT ME. LOOK THE OTHER WAY!
NO, NO ...
I'M BORED !

FOOEY !
I KNOW HOW. PAPA DOES IT TO MAMA.
YOU GOT YOUR SHNOT ON ME !


THEN YOU SHLOWLY GET ENWAPTURED AND KISH ME!
I'M BORED. I WANNA QUIT.

YESH! YOU PUT YOUR MOUF ON MINE ...
KISH? YOU MEAN KISSING?


AAAAA!



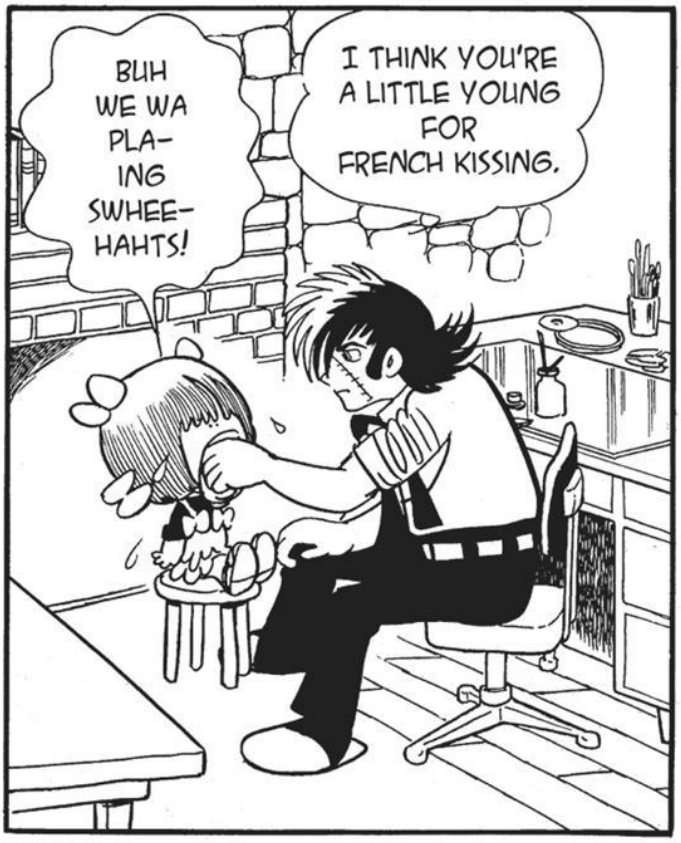
LET'S GO. I'LL GIVE YOU BITTER MEDICINE.

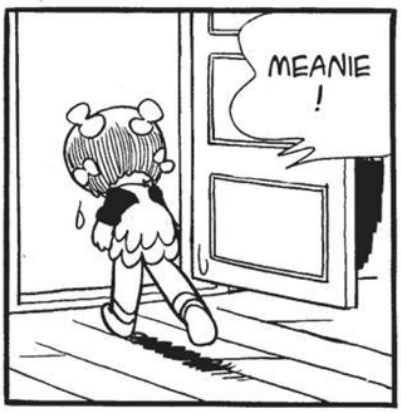
HE BIT MY TONGUE!

BWAAA FWAAA GWAAA!

MAKE ME BIGGER!
I ALWAYS HAVE TO PLAY WITH KIDS BECAUSE I'M SHMALL!

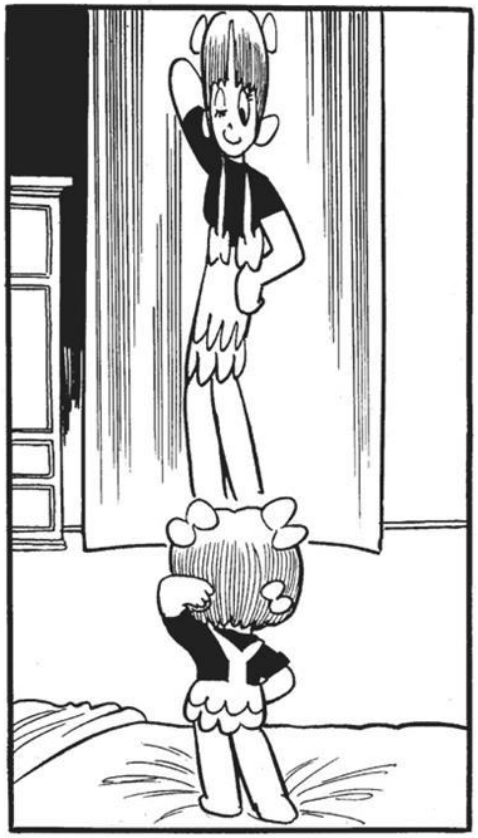
BUT I'M A GWOWN LADY!
THAT SIZE SUITS YOU.
YOU'RE FINE.

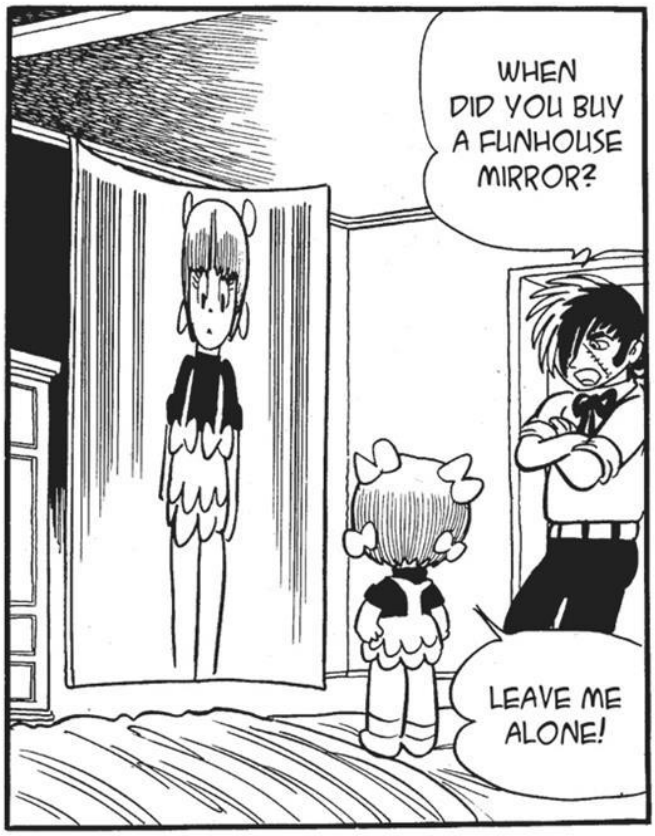

BUH WE WA PLA-ING SWHEE-HAHTS!
I THINK YOU'RE A LITTLE YOUNG FOR FRENCH KISSING.


MEANIE !

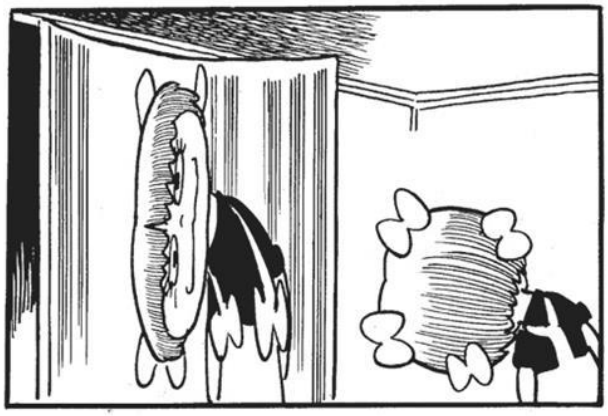
...

YOU'RE ZERO YEARS OLD !



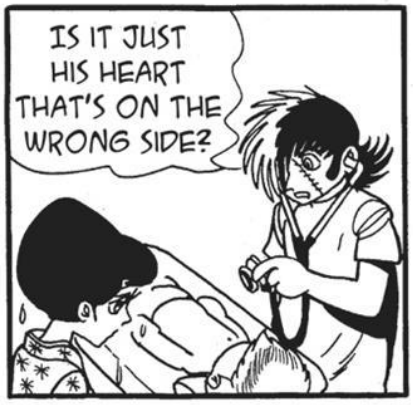

WHEN DID YOU BUY A FUNHOUSE MIRROR?
LEAVE ME ALONE!

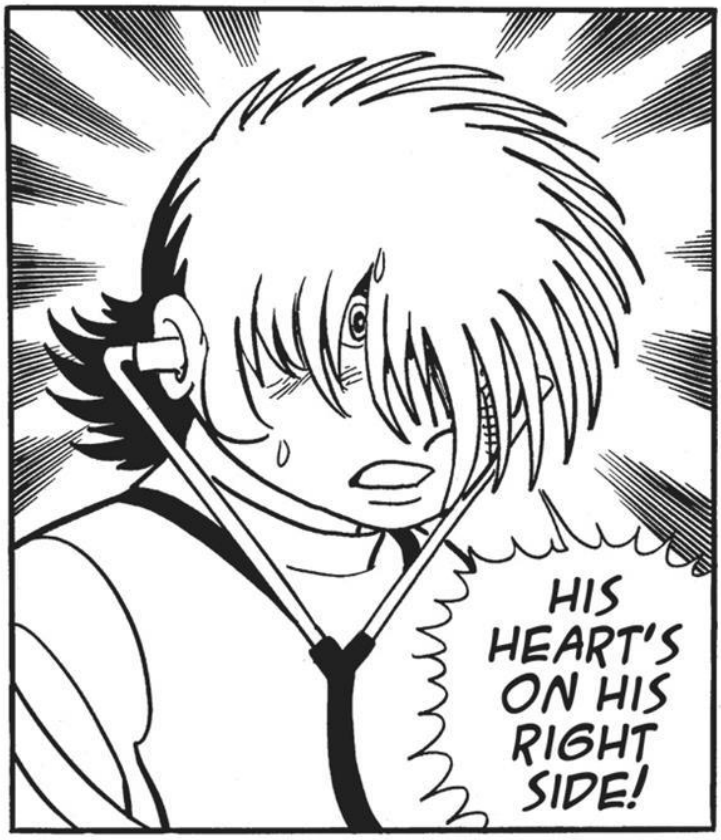
SHTUPID !



TAXI
PLEASE, DOCTOR, OUR CHILD!
DOC-TOR !!
THEN FELL DOWN IN PAIN ...
THIS MORNING HE WAS SEIZED BY A SUDDEN FEVER...
WON'T YOU PLEASE TAKE A LOOK AT HIM?
HE'S FRIENDS WITH YOUR DAUGHTER.
?!
HAS HE EVER HAD APPENDICITIS ?
NEVER ...

...
...


IS IT JUST HIS HEART THAT'S ON THE WRONG SIDE?

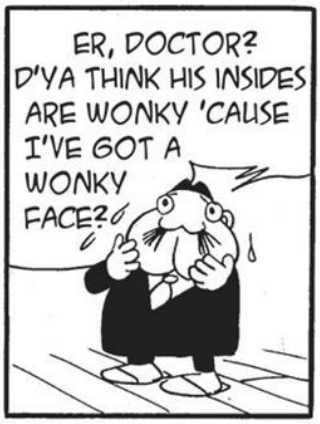

HIS HEART'S ON HIS RIGHT SIDE!

THE DOC-TORS SAY
HE HAS SOMETHING CALLED SITUS INVERSUS TOTALIS...
IN OTHER WORDS, ALL HIS INNARDS ARE BACKWARDS!

HMM...
VERY UNUSUAL !

I'LL INJECT A CONTRAST DYE AND TAKE SOME X-RAYS.

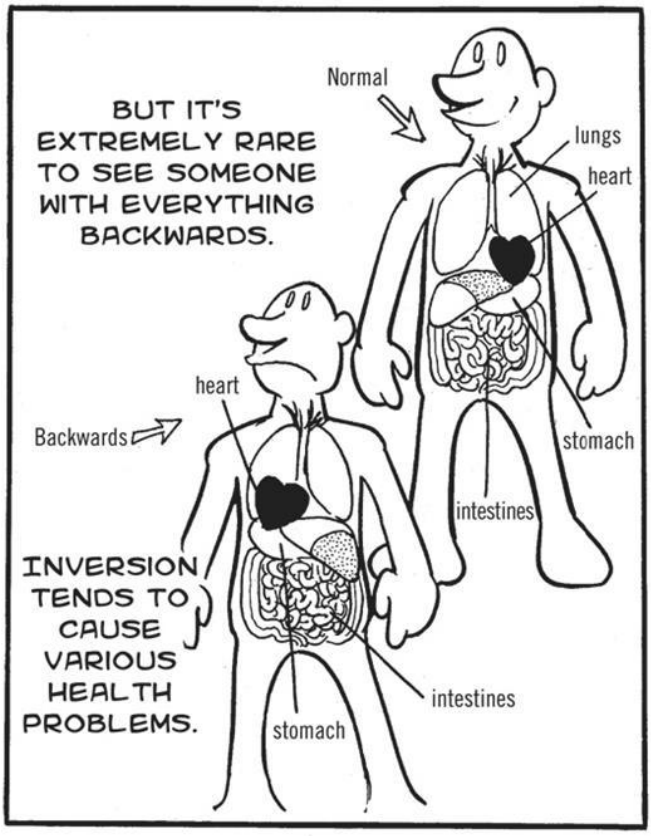
THAT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH IT!
IT DOES HAPPEN WITH HEARTS ...

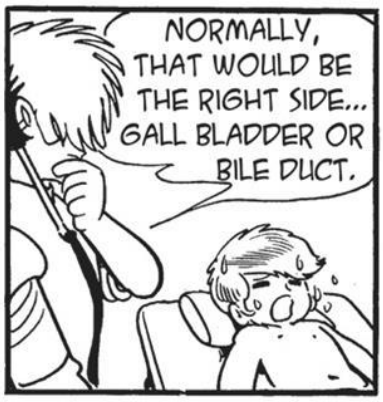

ER, DOCTOR? D'YA THINK HIS INSIDES ARE WONKY 'CAUSE I'VE GOT A WONKY FACE?

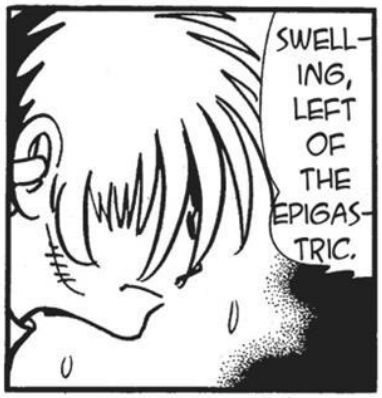
HIS APPENDIX IS ON THE LEFT, AND SO IS HIS LIVER, AND HIS SIGMOID'S ON THE RIGHT ...
THEY'RE ALL INVERTED!

OWW...
IT HUUURTS ...

WHERE DOES IT HURT?


BUT IT'S EXTREMELY RARE TO SEE SOMEONE WITH EVERYTHING BACKWARDS.
Normal
lungs
heart
stomach
intestines
Backwards
heart
INVERSION TENDS TO CAUSE VARIOUS HEALTH PROBLEMS.
intestines
stomach

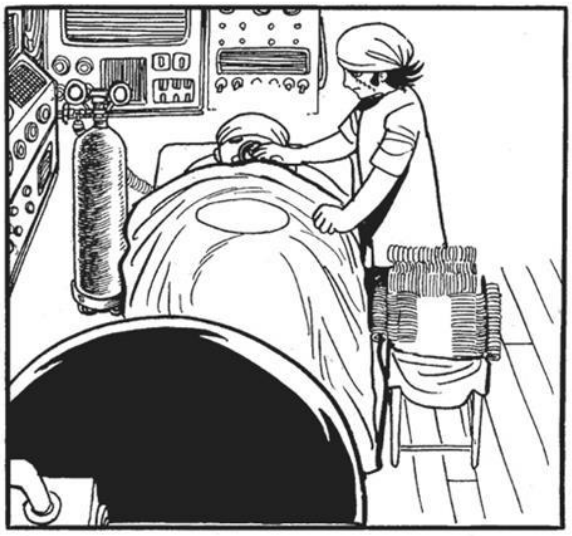

NORMALLY, THAT WOULD BE THE RIGHT SIDE... GALL BLADDER OR BILE DUCT.


SWELLING, LEFT OF THE EPIGASTRIC.

IT HURTS THAT BAD, SWEETIE ?
DOCTOR
OWWW... OW OW OW !!
WHAT'S WRONG, DOCTOR?
DO SOMETHING, PLEASE! THIS IS UNBEARABLE!
...
I'LL GIVE IT A SHOT.
I KNOW EVERY DETAIL OF THE HUMAN BODY'S LAYOUT. EVERY BLOOD VESSEL, EVERY NERVE— I KNOW WHERE THEY RUN, WHERE THEY INTERSECT. BUT IN A BODY WHERE EVERYTHING'S INVERTED...
THE DOCTOR SEEMS PERPLEXED ...
I'M WORRIED, DEAR...
BUT HE'LL OPERATE, NO?

IS THAT GIRL HIS ASSISTANT?
NOW I'M WORRIED, TOO !

HAVE A SHEAT !
SHTAY OUT HERE DUWING THE OPEWATION!

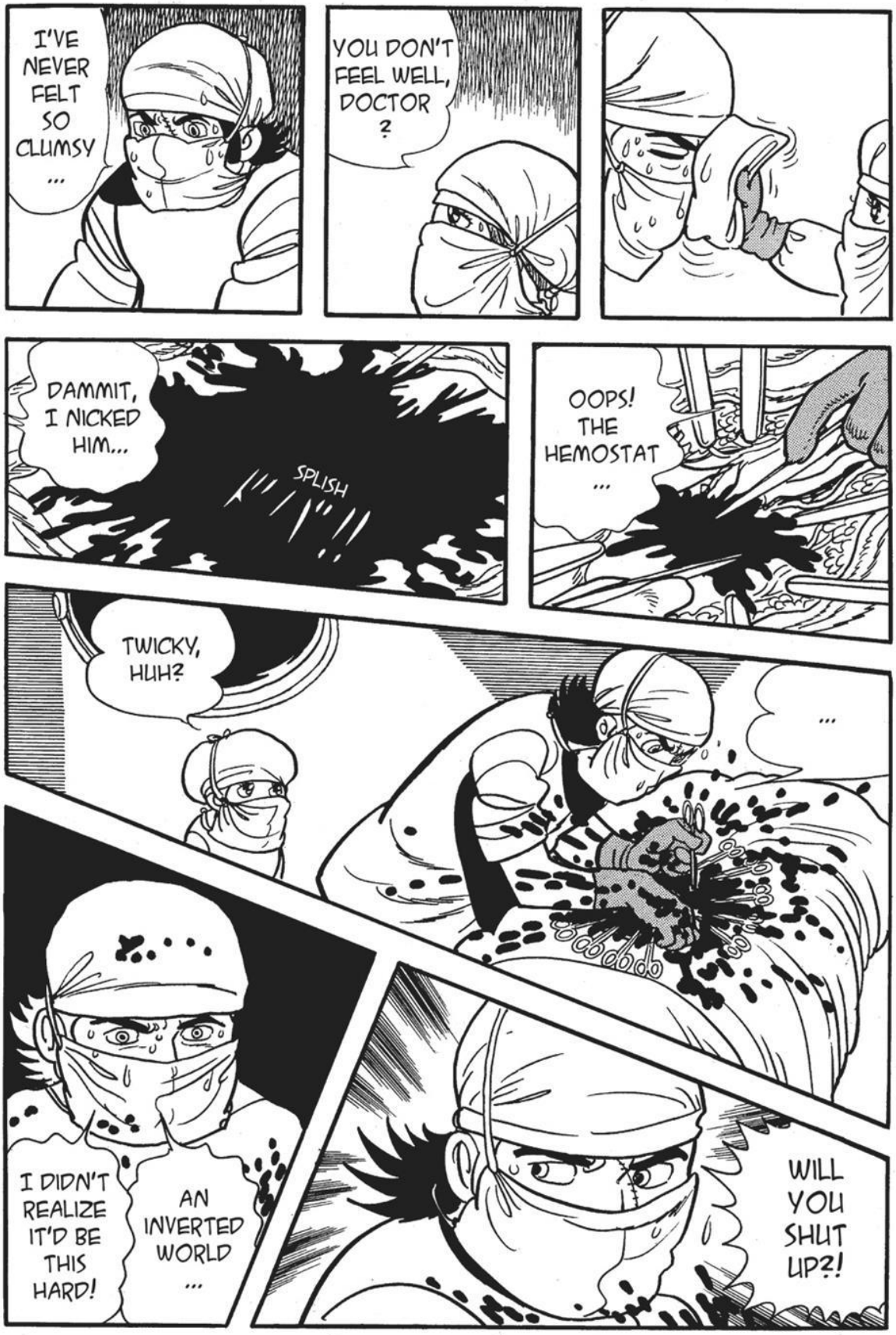


...

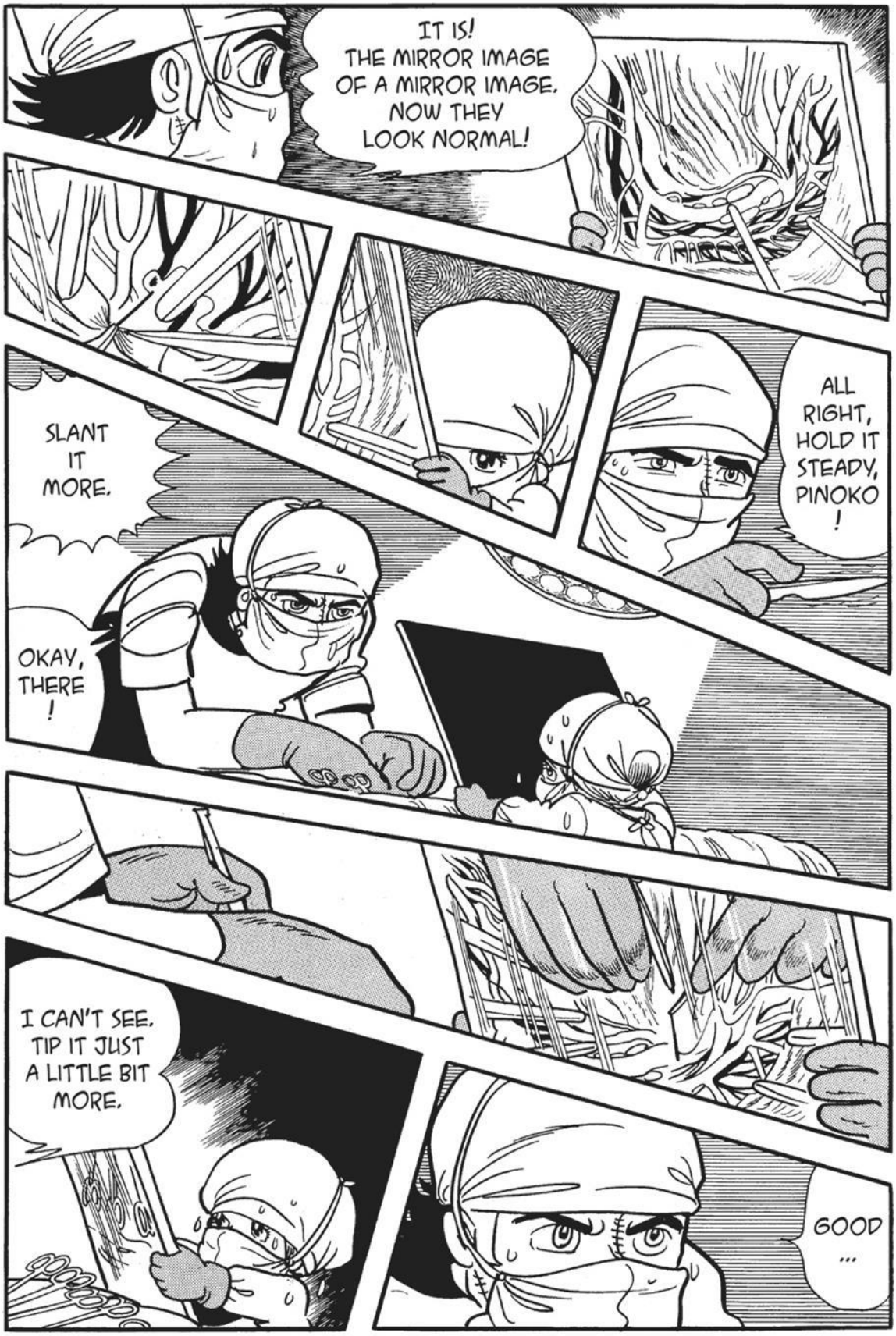
WHAT'S WONG, DOCTOR ?

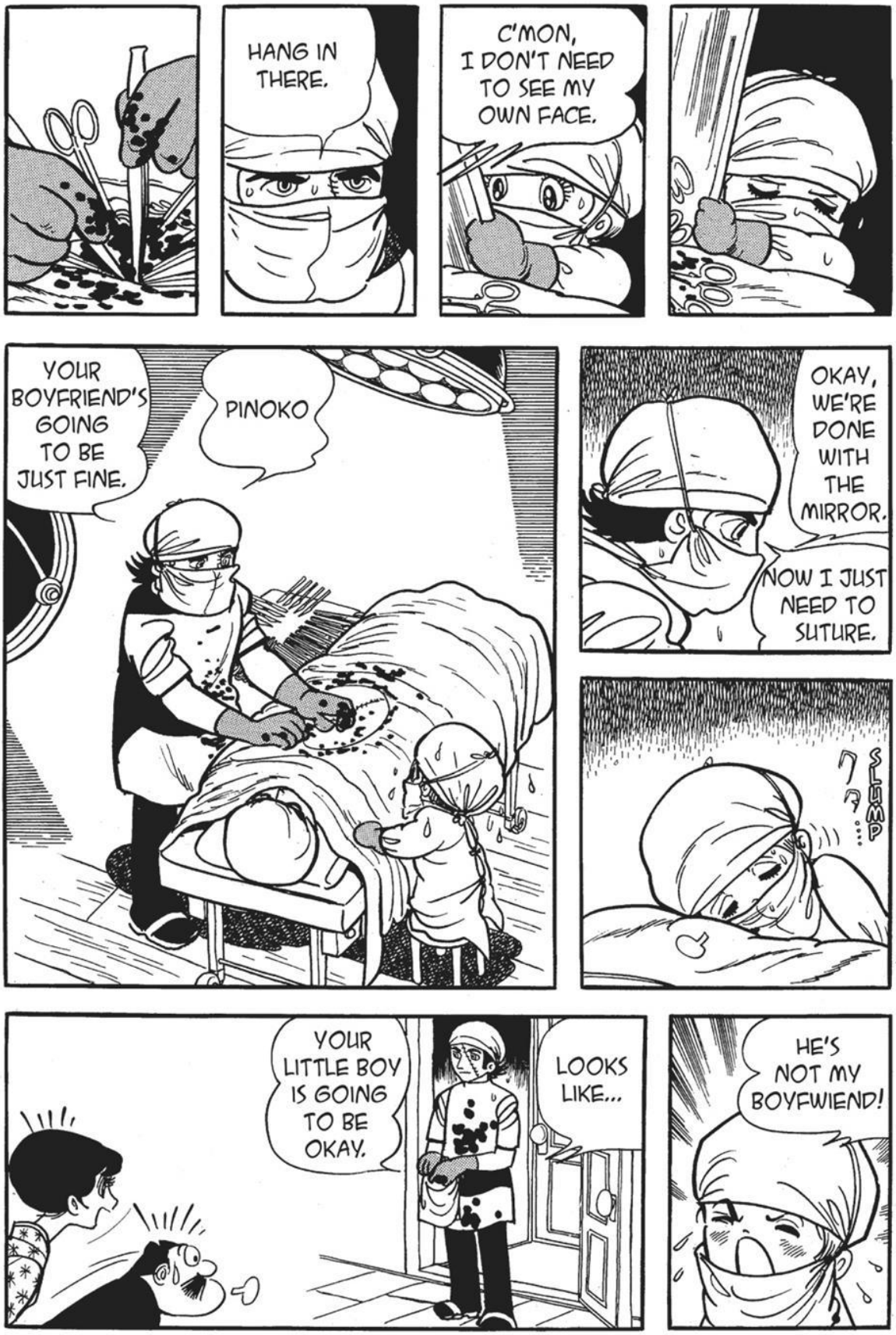
LET'S GET STARTED.
IT'S NOTHING...
YOU DON'T SHEEM YOUR USUAL SHELF.

NO. 2 SCALPEL!
...
RETRACTOR!
INCISING COSTAL ARCH OF RECTUS ABDOMINUS.
WHAT A CASE...
BLOOD VESSELS, MUSCLES, NERVES, EVERYTHING'S INVERTED...
SHK
SHK
PINOKO ...
WIPE MY BROW.

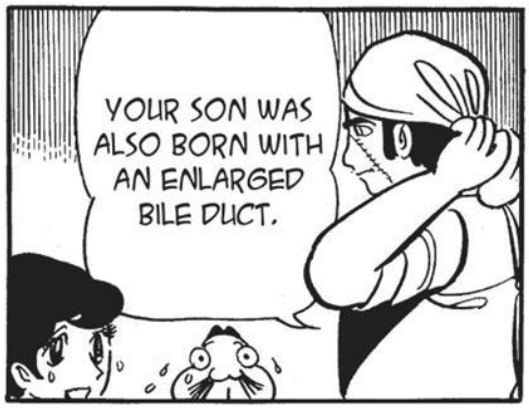

I'VE NEVER FELT SO CLUMSY ...
YOU DON'T FEEL WELL, DOCTOR ?
DAMMIT, I NICKED HIM...
SPLISH
OOPS! THE HEMOSTAT ...
TWICKY, HUH?
...
I DIDN'T REALIZE IT'D BE THIS HARD!
AN INVERTED WORLD ...
WILL YOU SHUT UP?!

PINOKO, FORCEPS!
ONE SHEC!
FLIMP
EVEWYFING'S BACKWARDS, WIGHT?
LOOK IN THE MIWWOR, DOCTOR!


IT IS! THE MIRROR IMAGE OF A MIRROR IMAGE. NOW THEY LOOK NORMAL!
ALL RIGHT, HOLD IT STEADY, PINOKO!
SLANT IT MORE.
OKAY, THERE!
I CAN'T SEE. TIP IT JUST A LITTLE BIT MORE.
GOOD...


HANG IN THERE.
C'MON, I DON'T NEED TO SEE MY OWN FACE.
YOUR BOYFRIEND'S GOING TO BE JUST FINE.
PINOKO
OKAY, WE'RE DONE WITH THE MIRROR.
NOW I JUST NEED TO SUTURE.
SLUMP
クタ…
YOUR LITTLE BOY IS GOING TO BE OKAY.
LOOKS LIKE...
HE'S NOT MY BOYFWIEND!

YOU NEED TO THANK PINOKO ...
TH... THANK YOU SO MUCH.

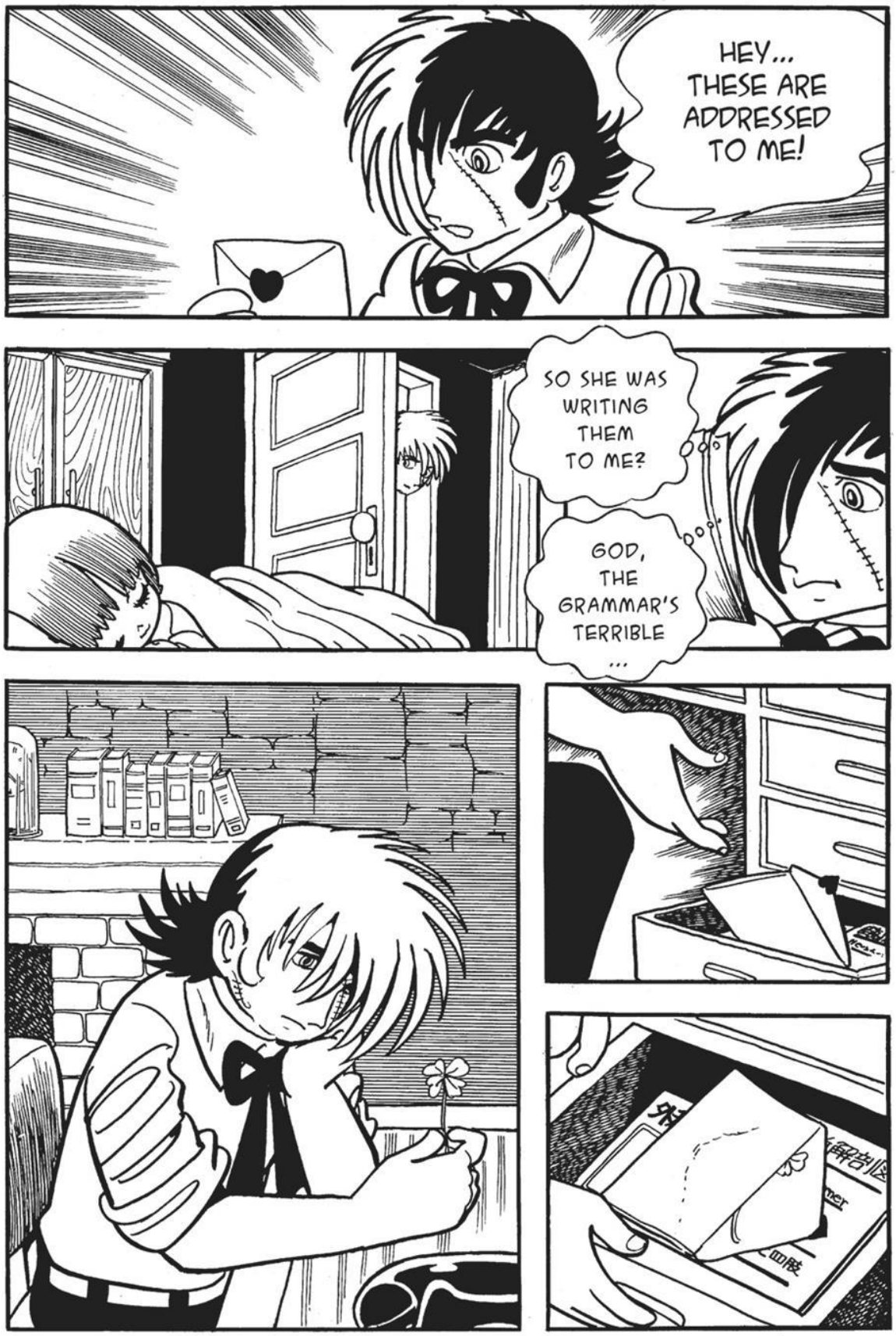

YOUR SON WAS ALSO BORN WITH AN ENLARGED BILE DUCT.

MY SUPERB ASSIS-TANT.

WHO?

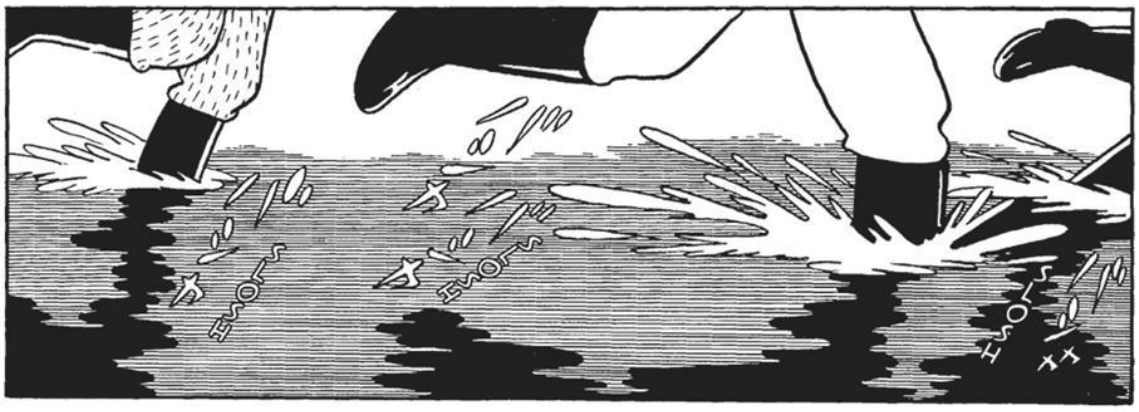
WHAT'S THIS? PINOKO'S LOVE LETTERS CAME BACK.

MAIL !
THANK YOU.

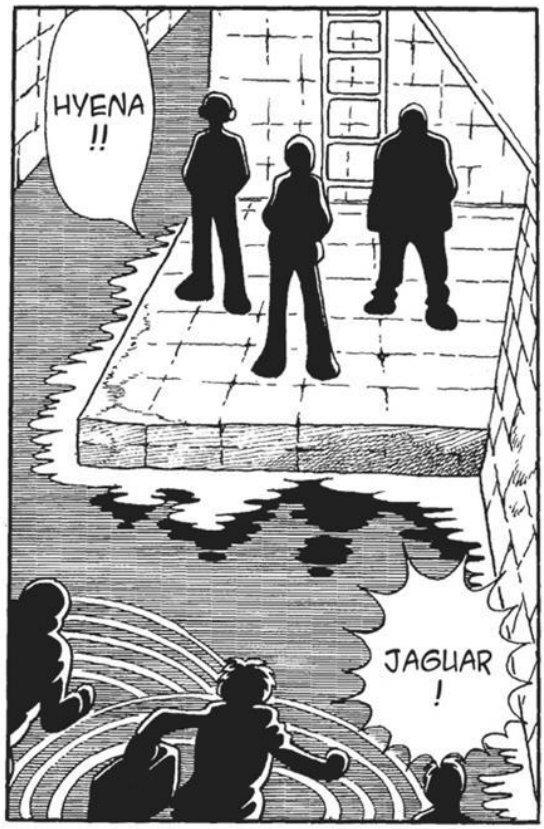

HEY... THESE ARE ADDRESSED TO ME!
SO SHE WAS WRITING THEM TO ME?
GOD, THE GRAMMAR'S TERRIBLE ...

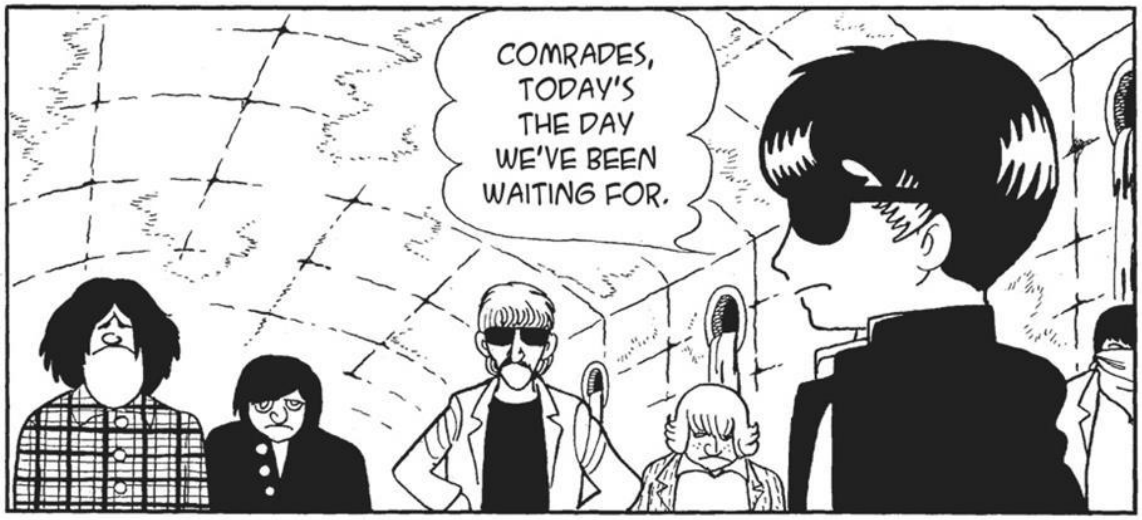
THE SEWER WAY

ハッシュ
ハッシュ


SLOSH
SLOSH
SLOSH

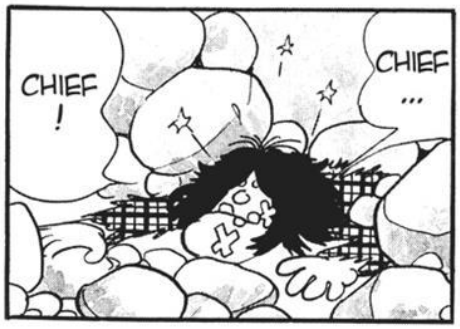
ALL RIGHT, EVERY-BODY'S HERE.
NOBODY SAW YOU, DID THEY?
'COURSE NOT.

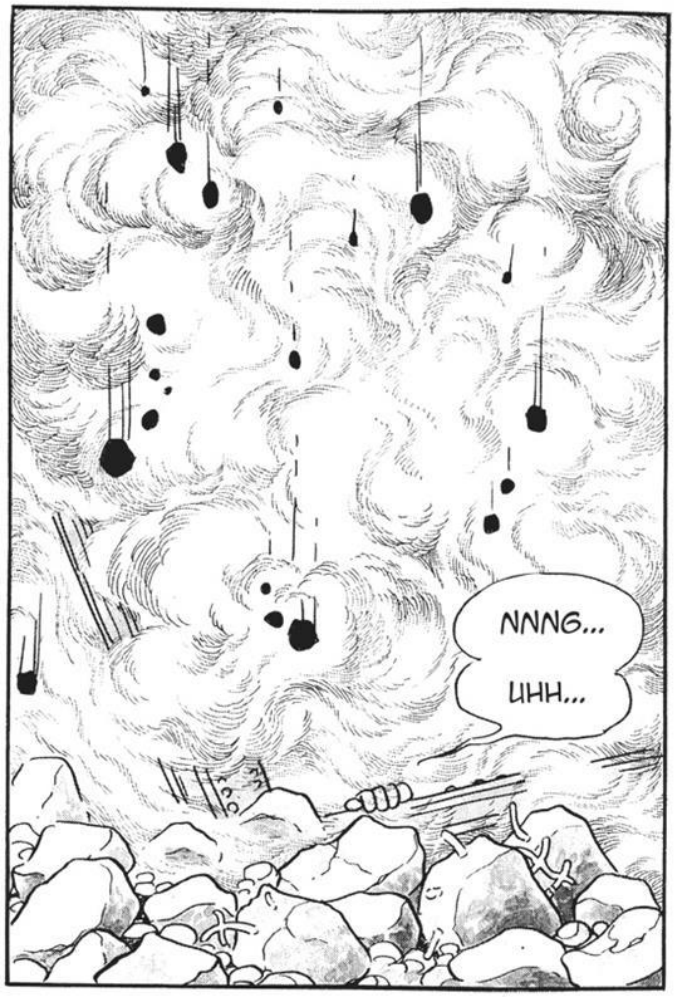

HYENA !!
JAGUAR !


COMRADES, TODAY'S THE DAY WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR.

WE'LL BLOW UP THE ENTIRE BUILDING AND DESTROY THE TRIANGLE FACTION.
THE BOSSES OF THE TRIANGLE FACTION ARE IN THE APARTMENT BUILDING JUST OVER OUR HEADS.
IF WE DO, WE'LL NEVER SCRATCH OUT OUR ENEMIES.
THEY HAVE TO DIE. WE CAN'T FRET OVER COLLATERAL DAMAGE.
WHAT ABOUT THE OTHER PEOPLE IN THE BUILDING?
ASSEMBLE THE BOMB!
YOUR SELFISH PRIORITIES DON'T MATTER!
BUT MY FRIEND LIVES THERE...

BOOM
TRRRR

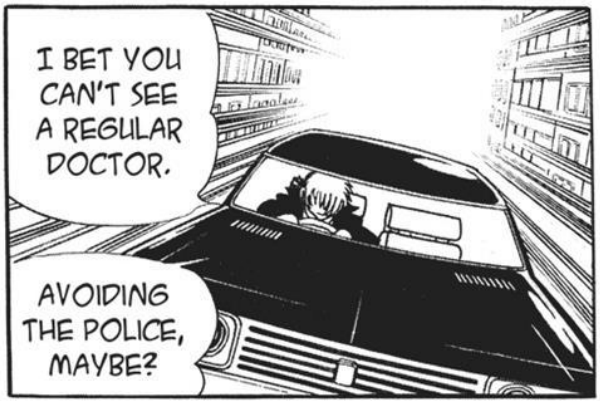

CHIEF !
CHIEF ...


NNNG...
UHH...

THE BURNS, TOO ?
IT'S FROM A CAR ACCIDENT ...
YEAH. IT CAUGHT FIRE.

HE CAN'T MAKE IT HERE. HE'S THE WORST HURT!
WOULD YOU MIND FIXING UP ONE MORE OF US, DOC?

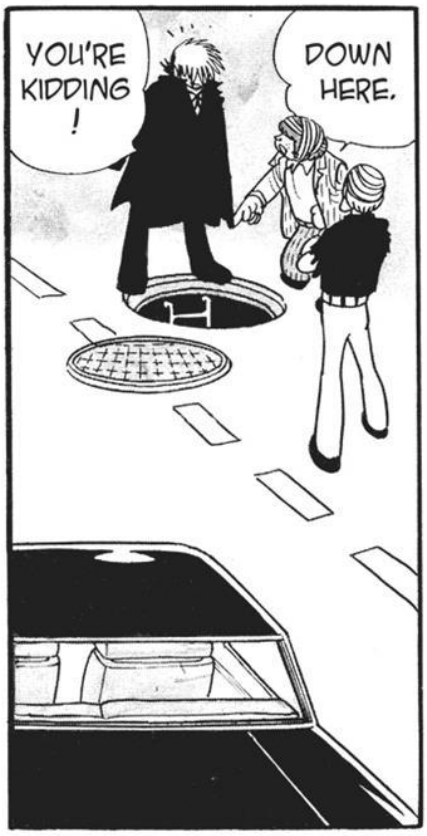
SOME KINDA HOT-ROD GANG?
YOU'RE STUDENTS. DO YOU DRAG RACE?

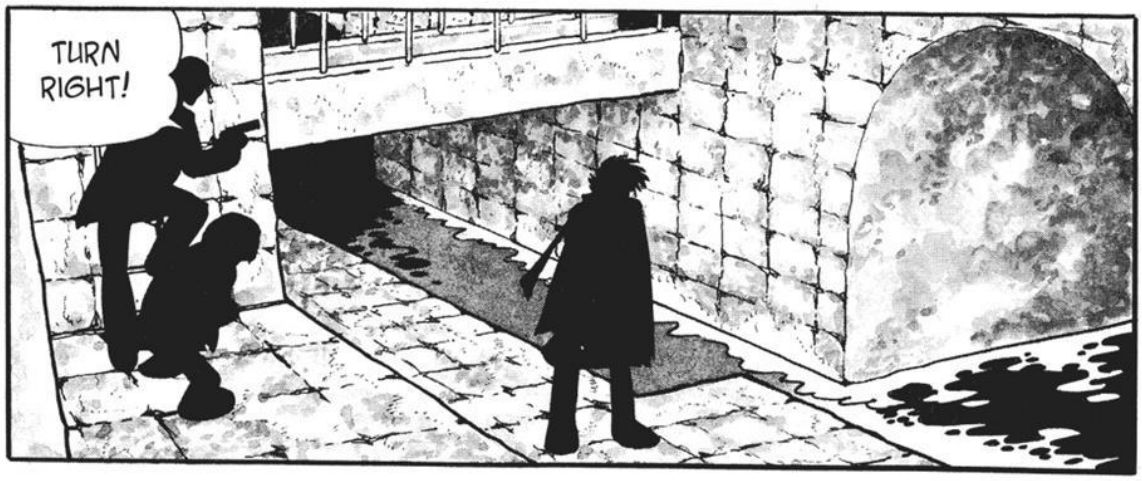

I BET YOU CAN'T SEE A REGULAR DOCTOR.
AVOIDING THE POLICE, MAYBE?

INSTEAD OF CALLING AN AMBULANCE ?
WHY ARE YOU ASKING ME

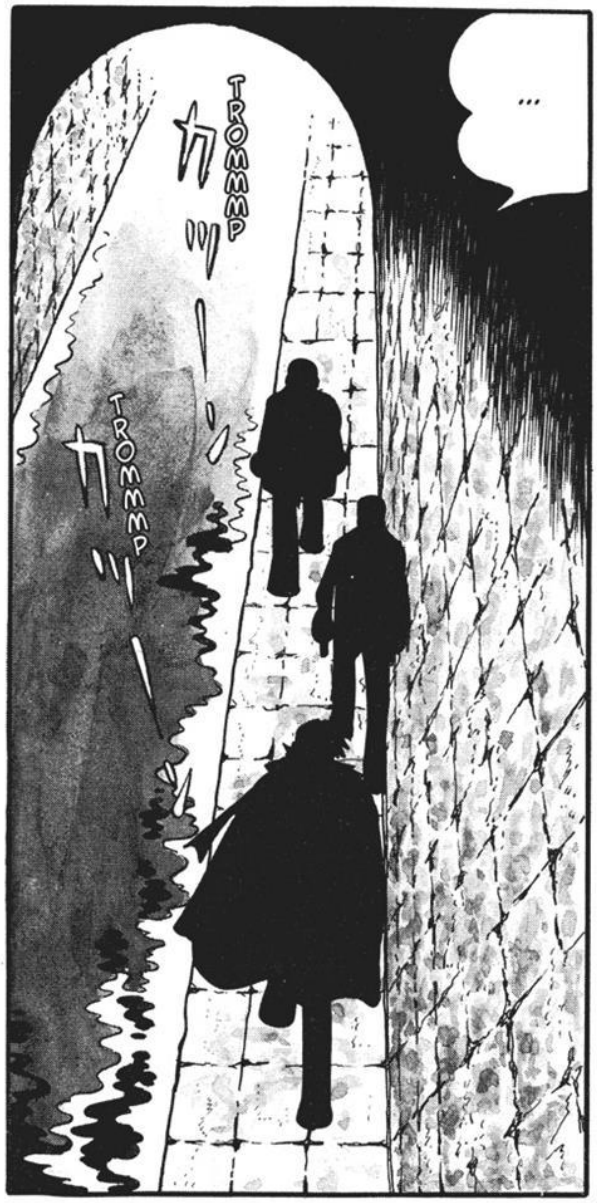
WHAT DO I LOOK LIKE, A PLUMBER ?

YOUR PATIENT'S DOWN THERE.
GET IN.


YOU'RE KIDDING !
DOWN HERE.

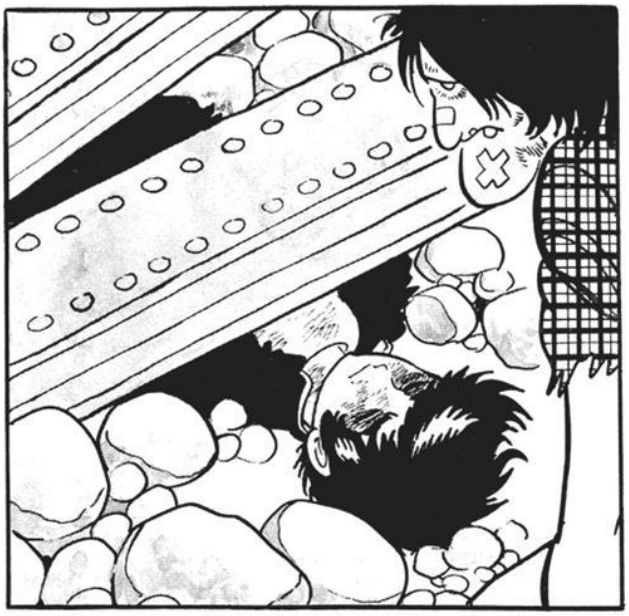

TURN RIGHT!

TURN AGAIN!


...
TROMMMP
TROMMMP

CHIEF, WE BROUGHT YOU A DOCTOR.

WAS THERE AN EXPLOSION ?
WHAT IS THIS ?!



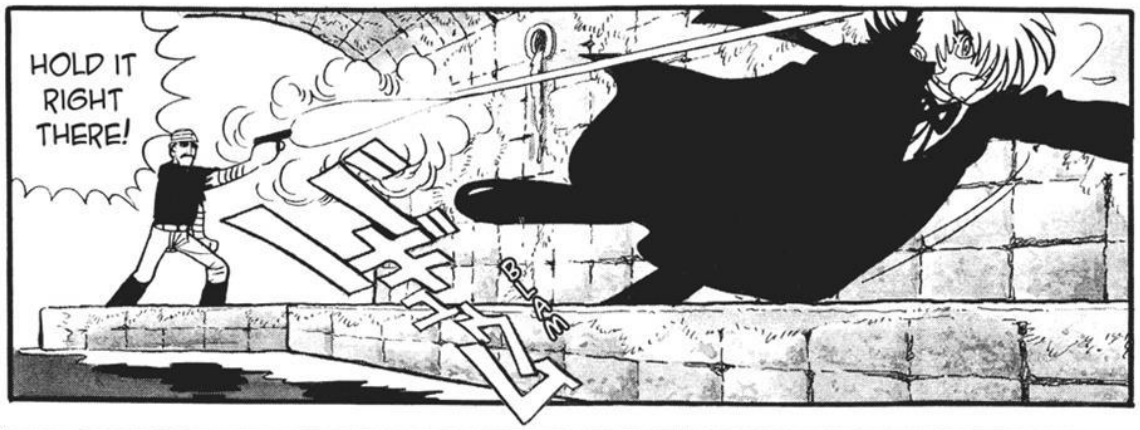
WE TRIED, BUT HE'S TRAPPED UNDER THAT HUGE BEAM.
IN ANY CASE, WE HAVE TO GET HIM OUT OF HERE.

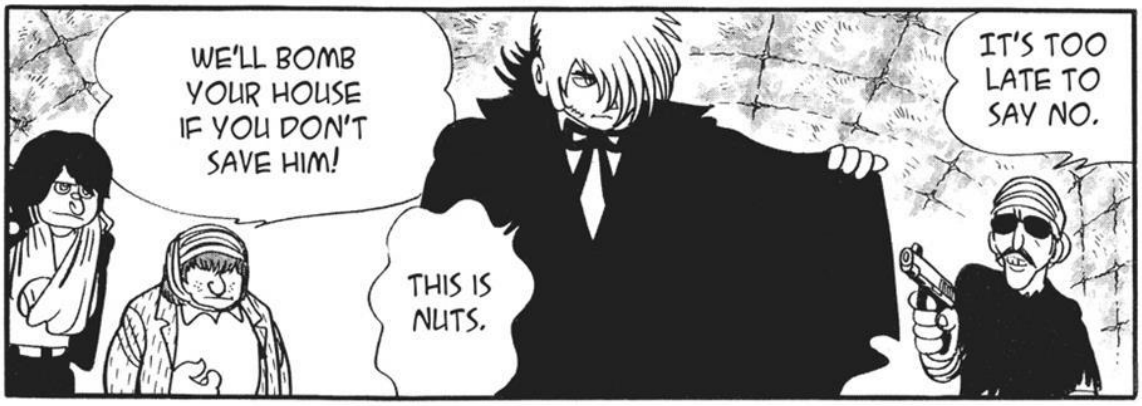
THE HIDEOUT OF AN ENEMY GROUP IS OVERHEAD. WE WERE GONNA WIPE THEM OUT BY SETTING OFF A BOMB, BUT IT WENT OFF ON US INSTEAD.
WE'RE THE JAGUARS AND HYENAS, MILITANTS OF THE WORLD JACKANAPES REVOLUTION MOVEMENT!

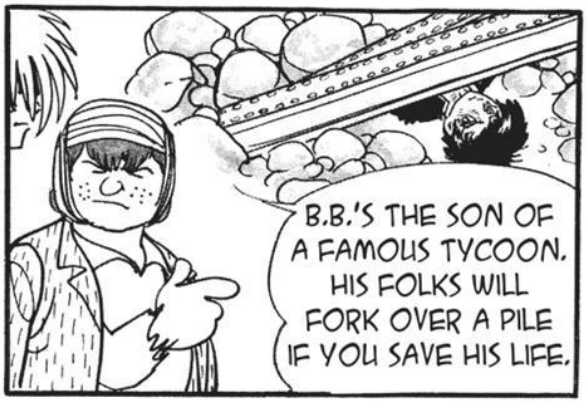
HE HAS BROKEN BONES AND MAJOR BLEEDING. HE'LL DIE.
THEN CALL THE COPS !
IF WE COULD, WE WOULDN'T HAVE COME TO YOU.

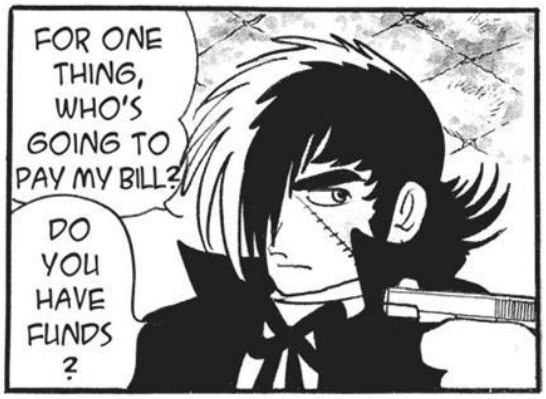
FIND ANOTHER DOCTOR.
I REFUSE TO BE INVOLVED IN THIS.

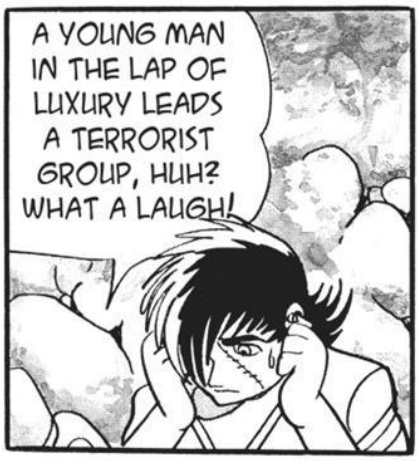
THIS IS B.B., OUR LEADER.

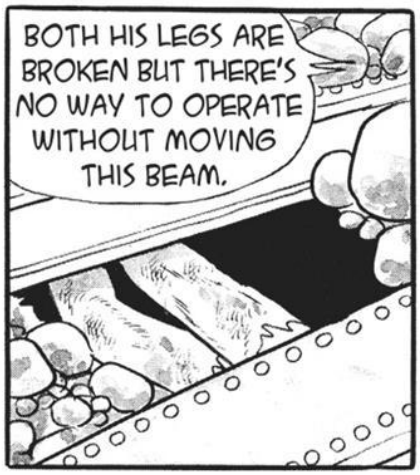

HOLD IT RIGHT THERE!
BLAM


WE'LL BOMB YOUR HOUSE IF YOU DON'T SAVE HIM!
THIS IS NUTS.
IT'S TOO LATE TO SAY NO.


B.B.'S THE SON OF A FAMOUS TYCOON. HIS FOLKS WILL FORK OVER A PILE IF YOU SAVE HIS LIFE.


FOR ONE THING, WHO'S GOING TO PAY MY BILL?
DO YOU HAVE FUNDS ?


A YOUNG MAN IN THE LAP OF LUXURY LEADS A TERRORIST GROUP, HUH? WHAT A LAUGH!

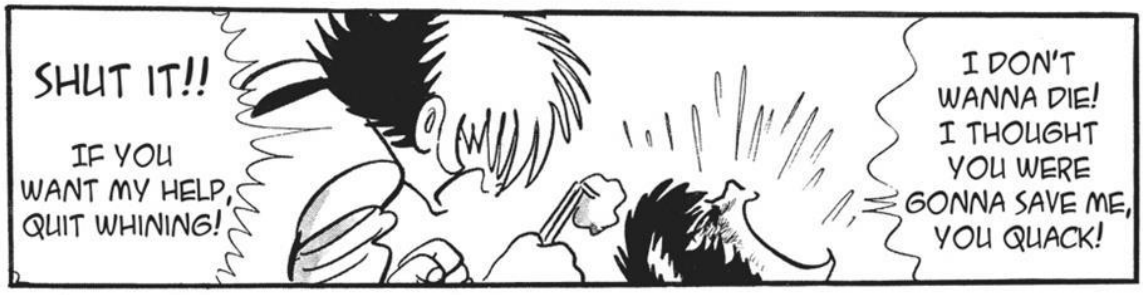

BOTH HIS LEGS ARE BROKEN BUT THERE'S NO WAY TO OPERATE WITHOUT MOVING THIS BEAM.

GO FETCH A FRESH SHEET.
TAKE HIS CLOTHES OFF.

IF YOU GET INFECTED, YES.
WILL I DIE ?

HIGH RISK OF BLOOD POISONING, SECONDARY INFECTION ...
ALL I CAN DO IS APPLY MAKE-SHIFT MEA-SURES.

"N-NO WAY"? THEN ...


SHUT IT!!
IF YOU WANT MY HELP, QUIT WHINING!
I DON'T WANNA DIE! I THOUGHT YOU WERE GONNA SAVE ME, YOU QUACK!

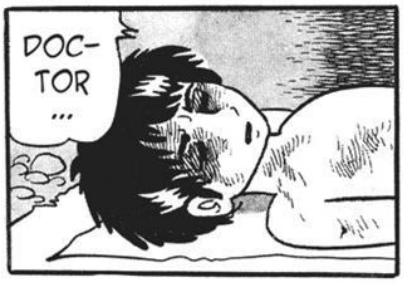
WHAT'LL YOU DO AFTER I TREAT HIM?

WE'LL FIGURE IT OUT IF HE LIVES.
WE HAVEN'T THOUGHT THAT FAR.

GET BLOOD TRANSFUSION EQUIPMENT FROM MY HOUSE. ASK THE GIRL THERE.
AND HURRY OR IT'LL BE TOO LATE!
HOW COME THEY HAFTA SWIM?

#@%+
...

S-SAVE ME!

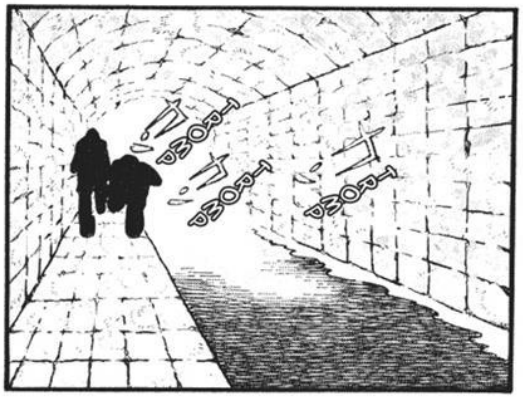

DOC-TOR
...

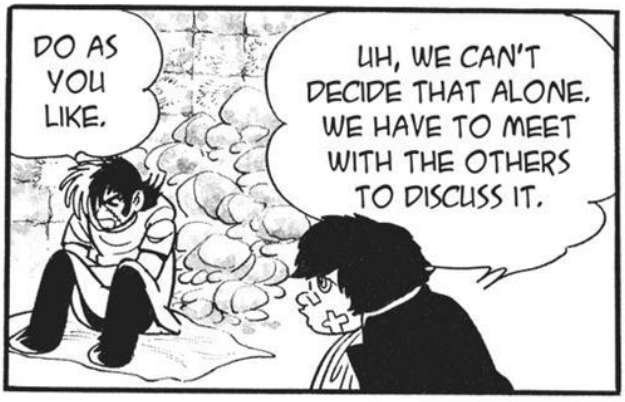
I'VE PUT HIM TO SLEEP. I CAN'T LET HIM THRASH AROUND.

YOU TRY TO BOMB A BUILDING; YOU BLOW YOURSELVES UP. YOU'RE HURT; YOU SEEK HELP. YOU GUYS DON'T HAVE A PLAN.
FOR CRYING OUT LOUD! WHAT A BUNCH OF MORONS!

...
...

TURN YOURSELVES IN SO WE CAN GET THIS BEAM MOVED.
IF YOU WANT TO SAVE B.B.,




DO AS YOU LIKE.
UH, WE CAN'T DECIDE THAT ALONE. WE HAVE TO MEET WITH THE OTHERS TO DISCUSS IT.

DOCTOR? WHERE ARE THE OTHERS ?
THEY LEFT TO HOLD A MEETING. THAT WAS SIX HOURS AGO...
KINDA HEARTLESS, DON'T YOU THINK?

AM I REALLY GOING TO DIE?
NO...
DIE?

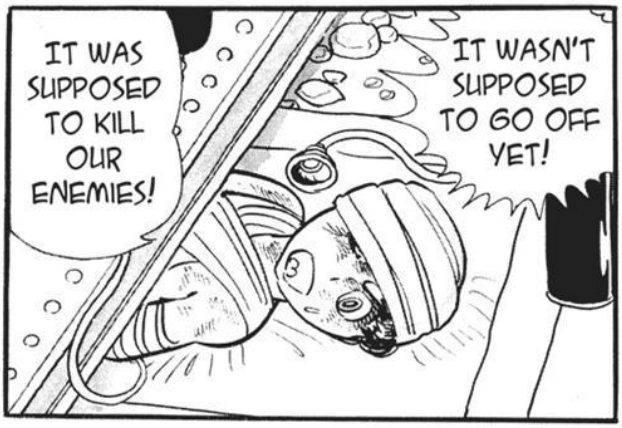
AND WHAT IF YOU DIE BEFORE THEY REACH ONE?

THEY'RE PROBABLY TRYING TO MUSTER AGREEMENT.

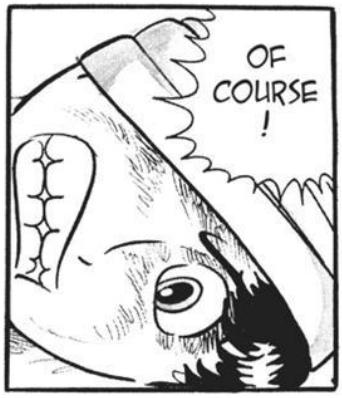
IF YOU WANT TO LIVE SO BADLY, WHY'D YOU SET OFF A BOMB?

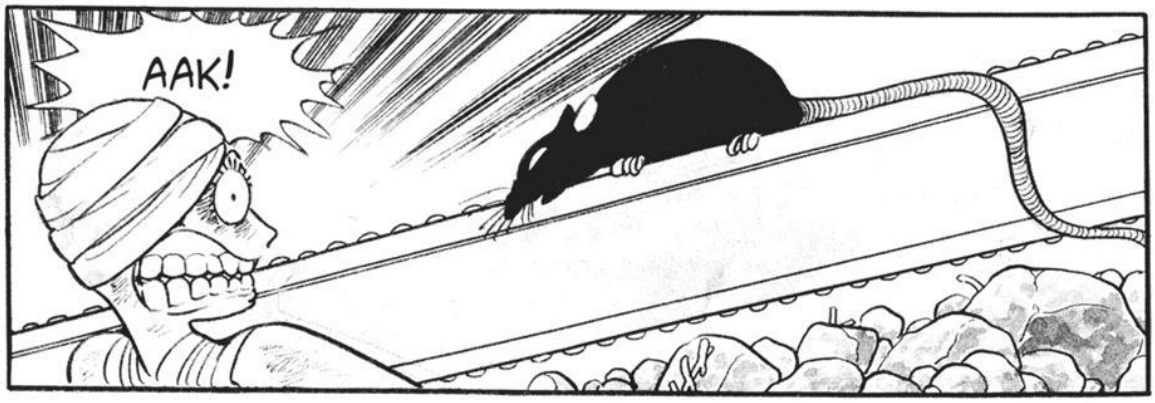
I DON'T WANT TO DIE, GOT THAT ?
I THOUGHT YOU WERE GOING TO SAVE ME! YOU BETTER!

SO, YOU DON'T MIND CAUSING OTHERS' DEATHS, BUT YOU DO YOUR OWN.

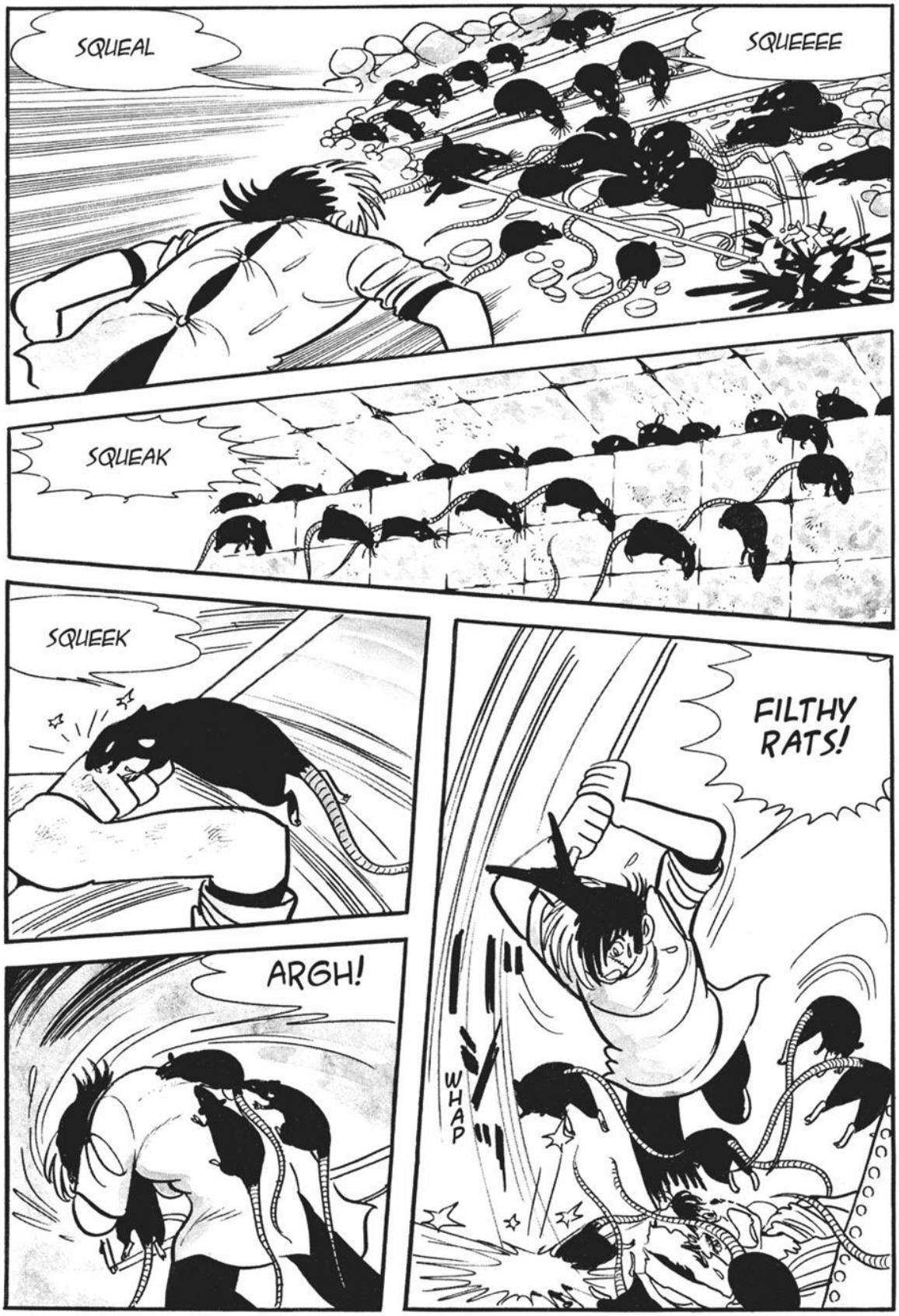

IT WAS SUPPOSED TO KILL OUR ENEMIES!
IT WASN'T SUPPOSED TO GO OFF YET!

YOU'RE AFRAID TO DIE TOO. DON'T ACT LIKE YOU'RE NOT.


OF COURSE!


AAK!

SHOO!
DOCTOR!!
KEE
IT ISN'T SAFE HERE. AT NIGHT, IT'LL BE A RAT PARADISE.
TIME TO CALL THE COPS, B.B.!
IT CAME FROM OVER THERE... UGH! CREEPY.
I'VE NEVER SEEN SUCH A HUGE RAT.
AAAAH! HELP!!
NO, DOCTOR! NOT THE POLICE !!
NGHAA!
AAAAAGH!

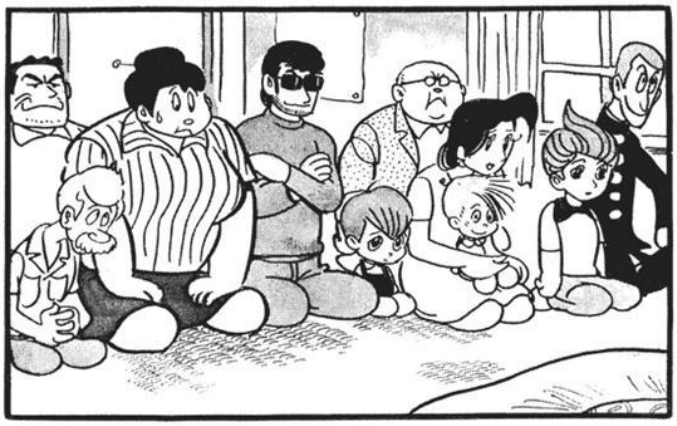

SQUEAL
SQUEEEE
SQUEAK
SQUEEK
ARGH!
FILTHY RATS!
WHAP

POP
薬用
アルコール
70%
MEDICAL
ALCOHOL
70%
FUHOOM

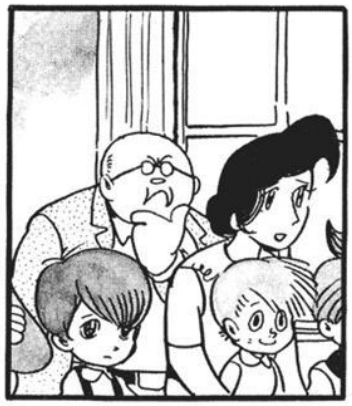
D-D... DOC-TOR... S-SAVE... ME...
I... DON'T WANT TO... D-DIE...

COPS ...
AM I... GOING TO... LIVE?
I'M ALIVE...?
YOU'RE AMONG THE INNOCENT RESIDENTS YOU ALMOST KILLED.
WE'RE IN THE BUILDING YOU TRIED TO BLOW UP.
NO.
WAIT... WHERE AM I?

I TOLD THEM EVERYTHING AND THEY HELPED ME SAVE YOU.



"SOB"



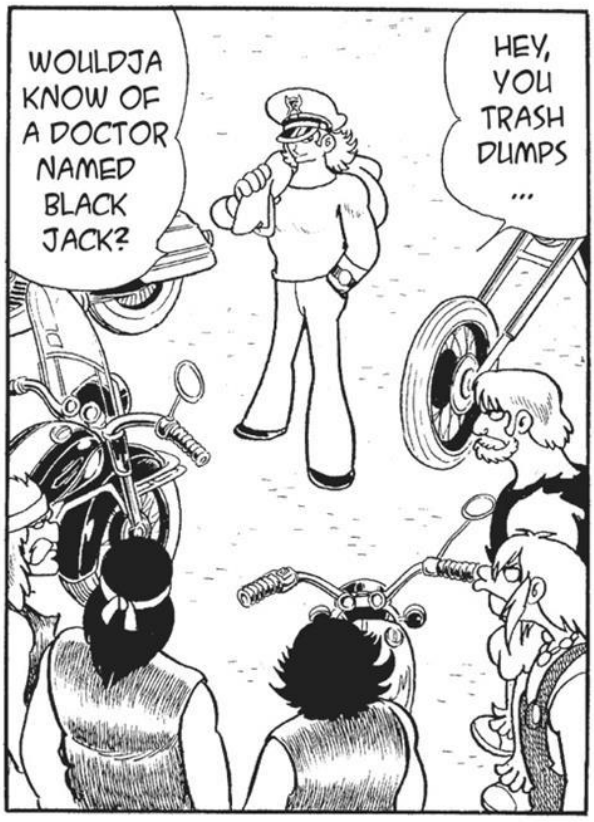
...

THE LESSON YOU'VE JUST LEARNED IS WORTH TWICE THAT!

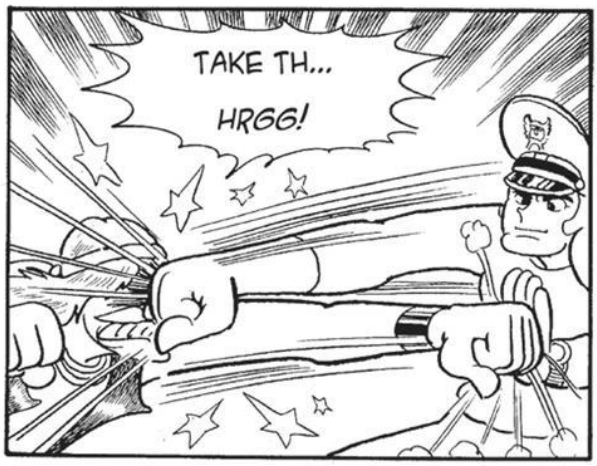
NEXT TIME, GET A DECENT PLAN TOGETHER OR FORGET IT.

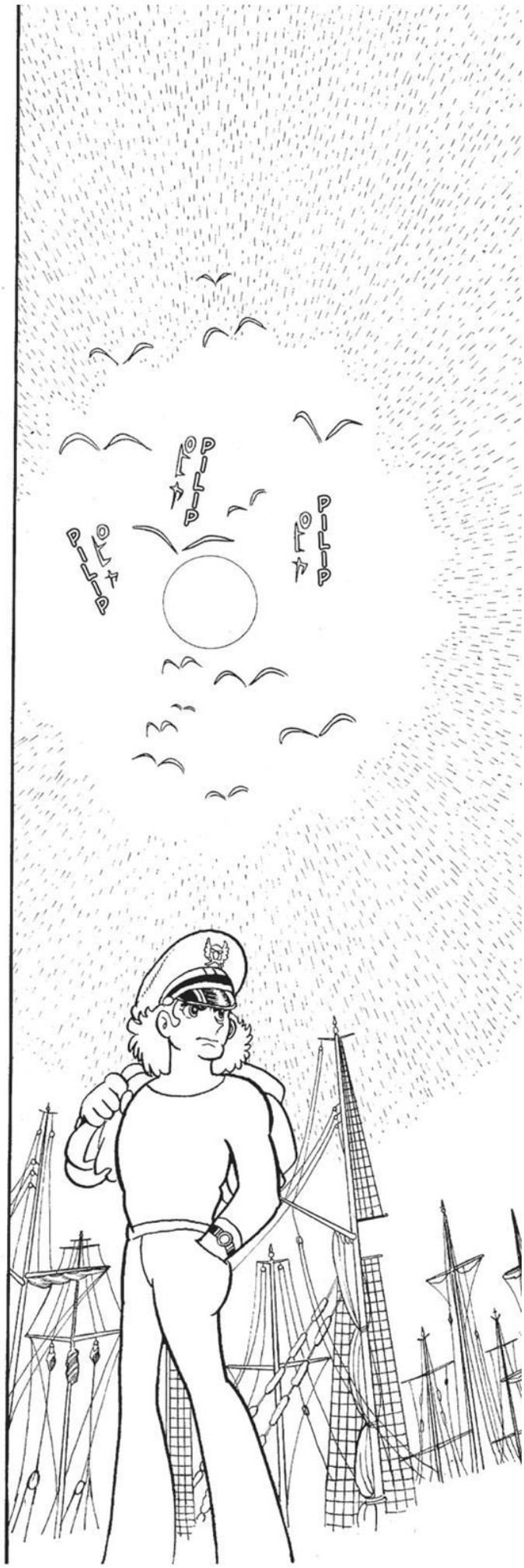
IF YOU WANT FURTHER HELP, THE PRICE IS 50 MILLION YEN.

THE SEA SMELLS OF ROMANCE

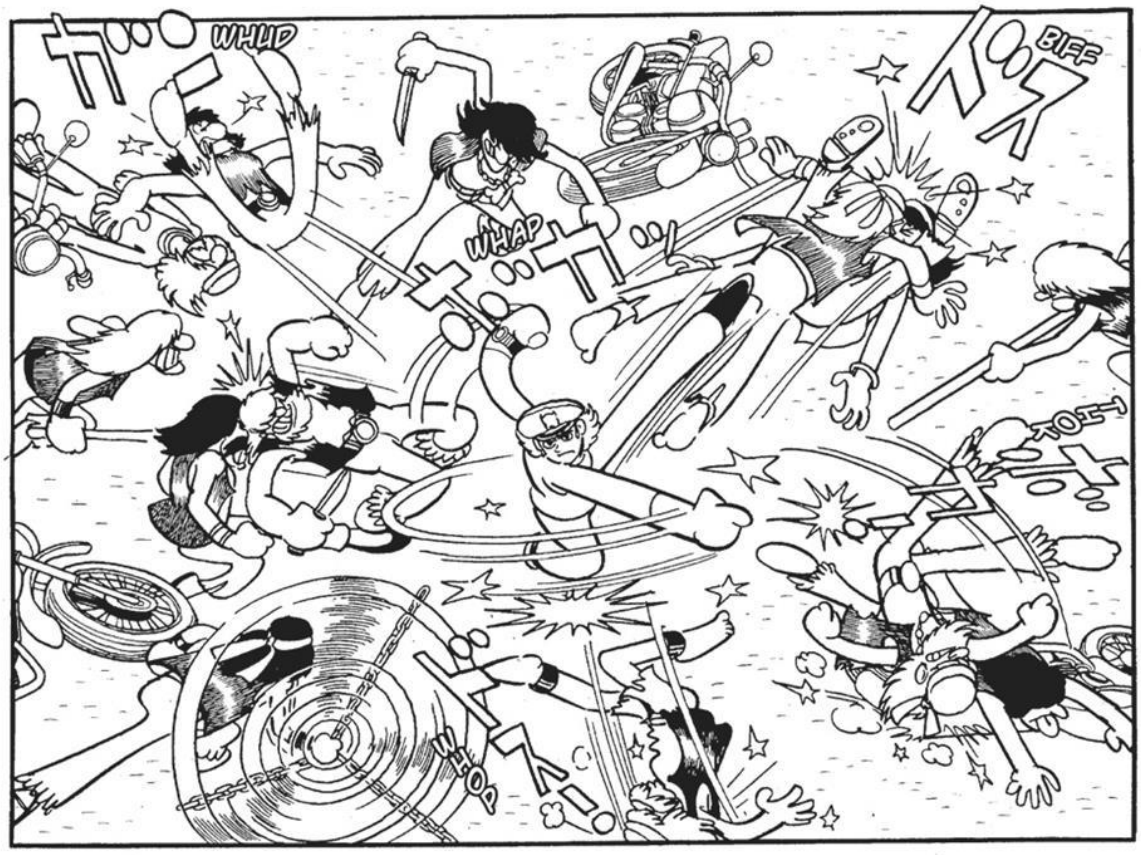

WOULDJA KNOW OF A DOCTOR NAMED BLACK JACK?
HEY, YOU TRASH DUMPS ...

I SAY HE DESERVES OUR POLITEMOST RESPONSE.
WHO YA CALLING TRASH DUMP?


TAKE TH...
HRGG!

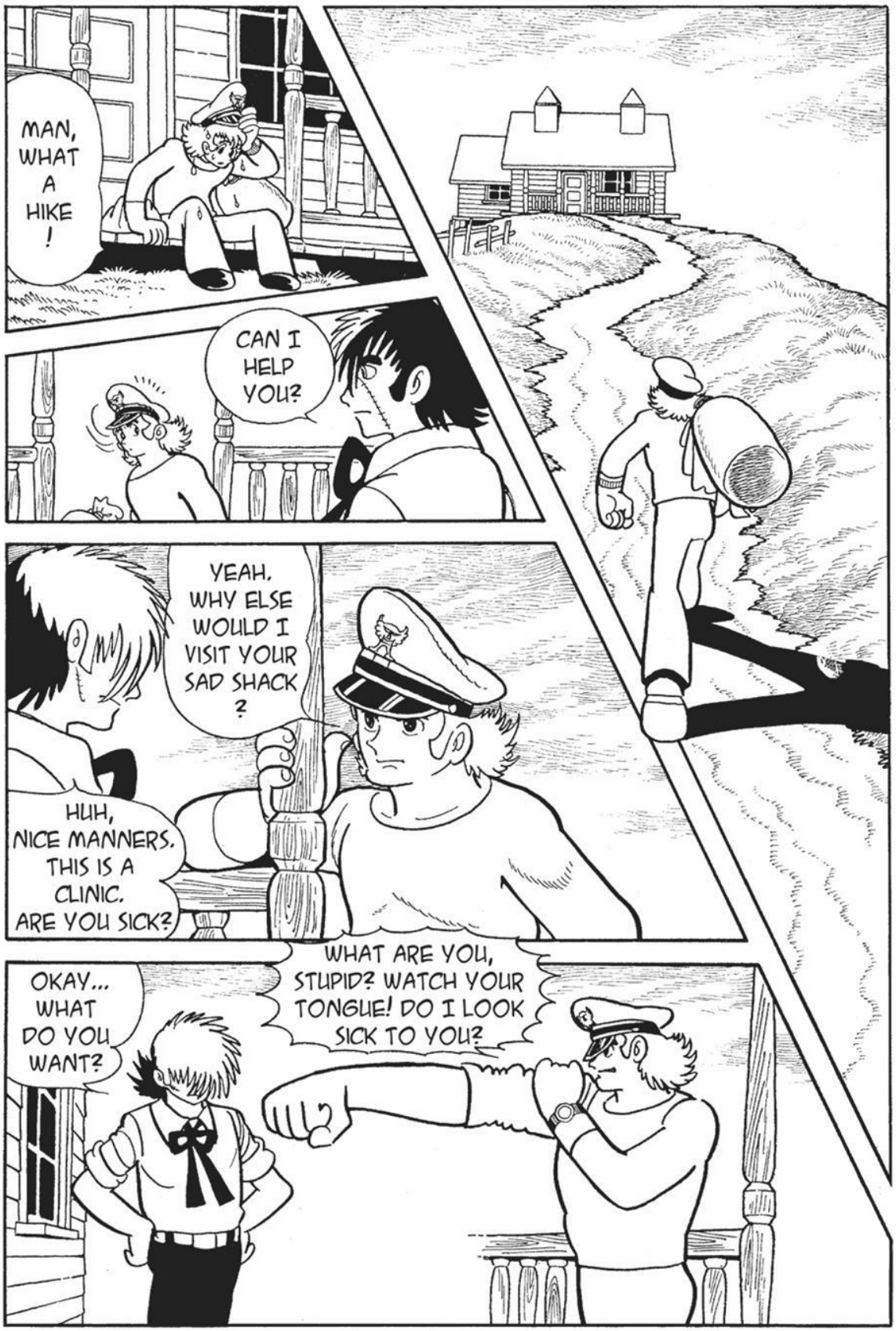

PILIP
PILIP
PILIP
PILIP

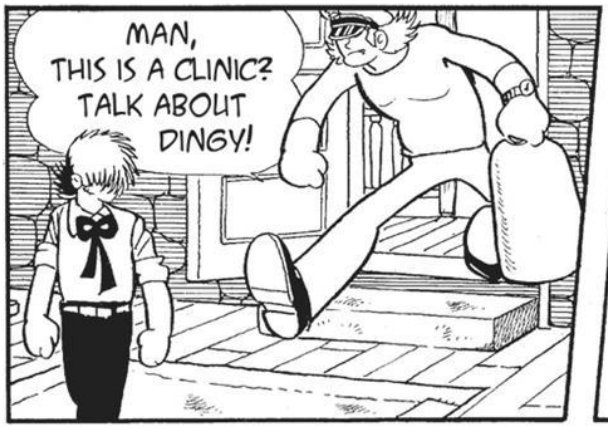
WHIP


WHIP
BIFF
WHAP
WHOP

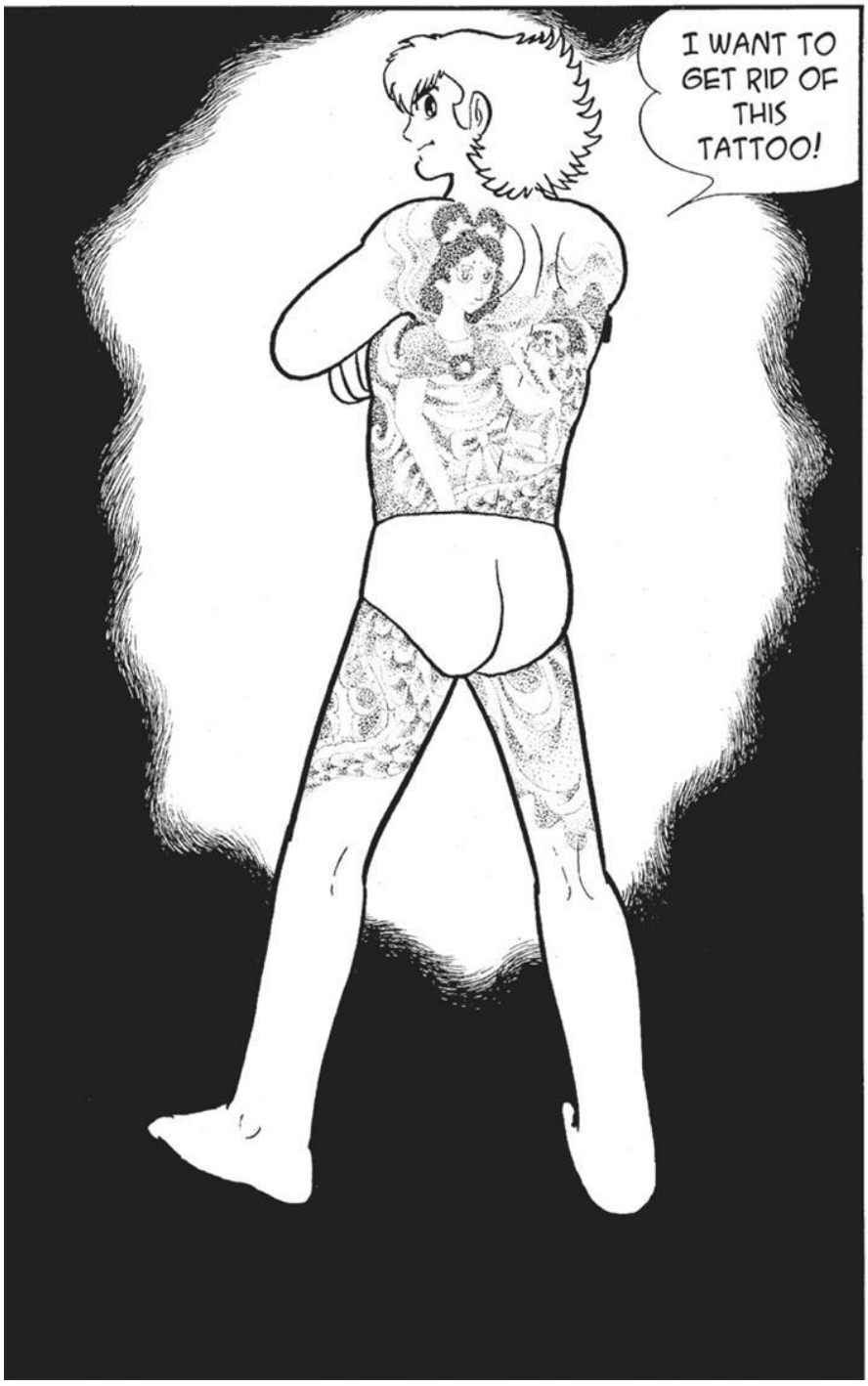
WHY DIDN'CHA TELL ME SOONER ?

THE H-HOUSE ON TOP OF THE CLIFF...
SAY, WHERE CAN I FIND DR. BLACK JACK?


MAN, WHAT A HIKE !
CAN I HELP YOU?
YEAH. WHY ELSE WOULD I VISIT YOUR SAD SHACK ?
HUH, NICE MANNERS. THIS IS A CLINIC. ARE YOU SICK?
OKAY... WHAT DO YOU WANT?
WHAT ARE YOU, STUPID? WATCH YOUR TONGUE! DO I LOOK SICK TO YOU?


MAN, THIS IS A CLINIC? TALK ABOUT DINGY!

QUIT BLATHERING AND LET ME IN! I'VE COME A LONG WAY TO GET HERE!


I WANT TO GET RID OF THIS TATTOO!

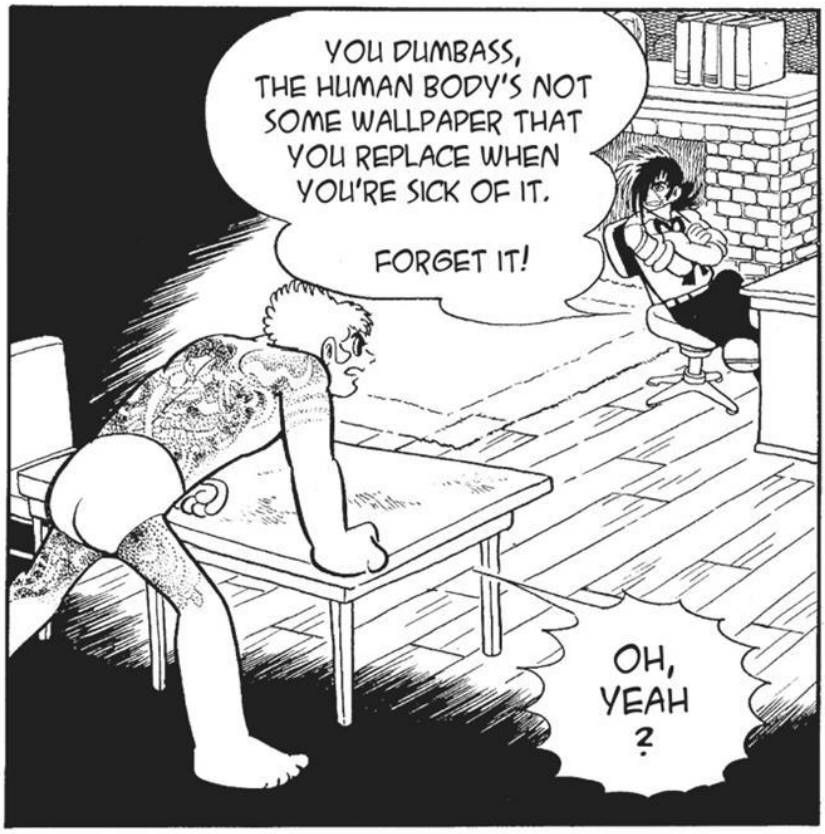
IF YOU'RE LOOKING TO FIGHT, I'LL GIVE YOU A DIME SO SCRAM.

I WANT A SKIN TRANSPLANT ON MY BACK!

HERE, I'LL SHOW YOU.

TAKE 'EM ALL OFF. I WANNA BE WHITE AS SNOW!
WENT OVER THE TOP, DIDN'T YOU?
NOT JUST MY BACK. THERE'S MORE HERE.

I DIDN'T COME HERE FOR A SERMON! I'LL SMASH THIS PLACE TO BITS!

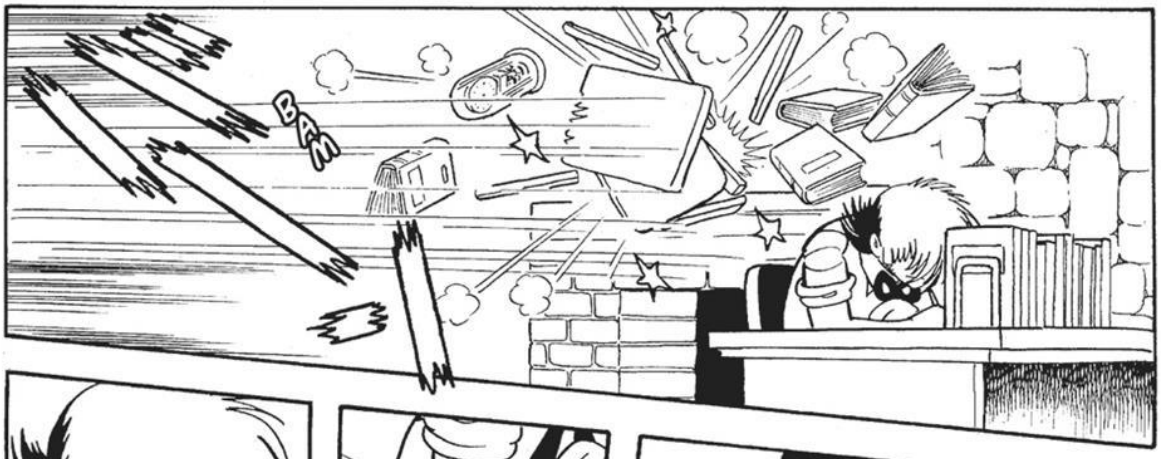

YOU DUMBASS, THE HUMAN BODY'S NOT SOME WALLPAPER THAT YOU REPLACE WHEN YOU'RE SICK OF IT.
FORGET IT!
OH, YEAH?

WHAT ARE YOU, A BABY? JUST HOW OLD ARE YOU?
I'M 16!
WELL, I'LL BE DARNED! HOW'D YOU GET SO HUGE?

I DON'T WORK FOR PEA-NUTS.
GET LOST, KID.

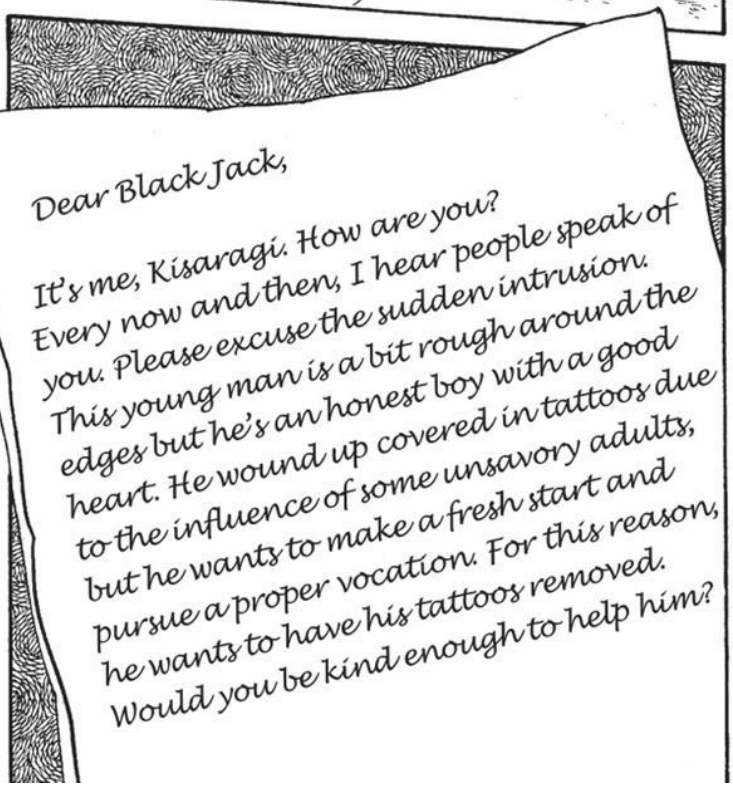
2 MILLION YEN.
I WON IT GAMBLING IN HONG KONG.

GOT ANY MONEY ?

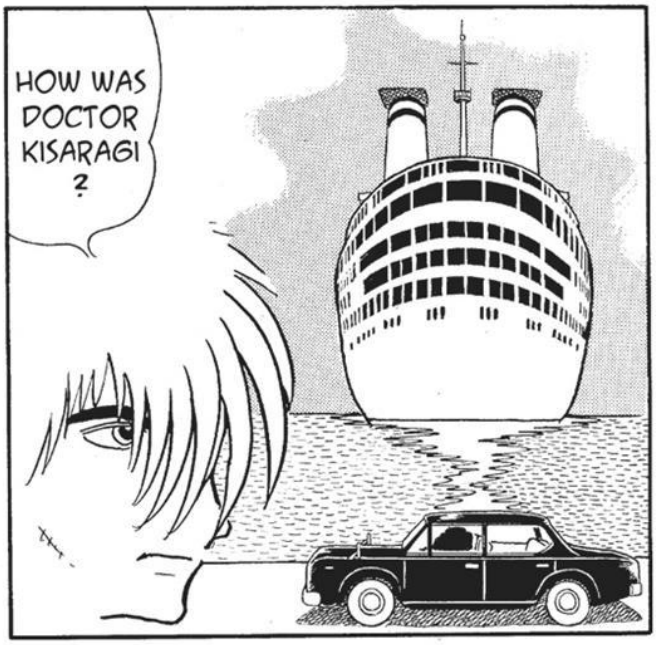

BAM

I'VE GOT MAIL FOR YOU
FROM A DOCTOR FRIEND OF YOURS.
I WON'T TAKE NO!

WHERE'D YOU GET THIS?
A SHIP WHERE I WORKED. SHIP'S DOC SAID YOU WERE A GOOD FRIEND.


Dear Black Jack,
It's me, Kisaragi. How are you?
Every now and then, I hear people speak of you. Please excuse the sudden intrusion.
This young man is a bit rough around the edges but he's an honest boy with a good heart. He wound up covered in tattoos due to the influence of some unsavory adults, but he wants to make a fresh start and pursue a proper vocation. For this reason, he wants to have his tattoos removed.
Would you be kind enough to help him?

MET THE DOC IN MANILA... ONE DAY, I ASKED ABOUT REMOVING MY TATTOOS.
WELL? IT IS YOUR FRIEND, RIGHT?
...


HOW WAS DOCTOR KISARAGI ?

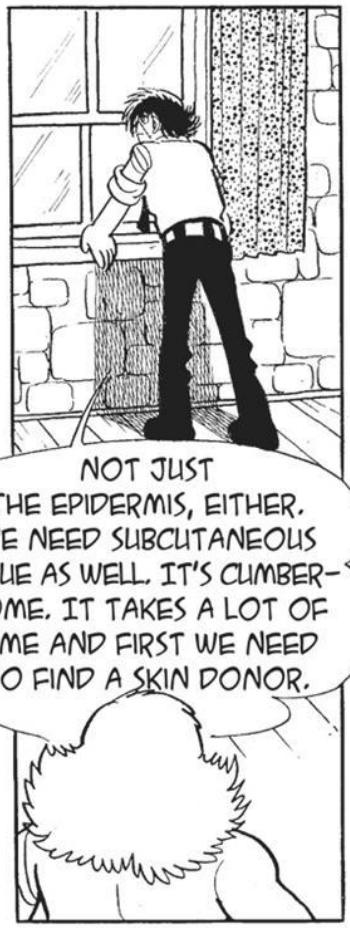
SHE'S A GOOD PERSON WHO LOOKED AFTER ME. SAID THAT IF I WANTED TO START OVER, THE ONLY ONE WHO COULD HELP ME WAS DR. BLACK JACK.

THIS LETTER SAYS THAT I OUGHT TO HELP YOU.

HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE?

WHO KNOWS? WE NEED EITHER A KIND SOUL...

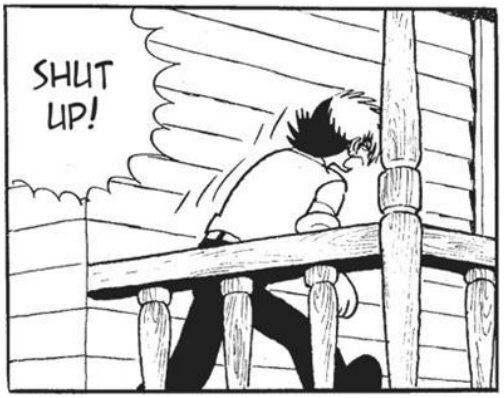
OR A CORPSE. GO HOME AND WAIT FOR ME TO SEND WORD.

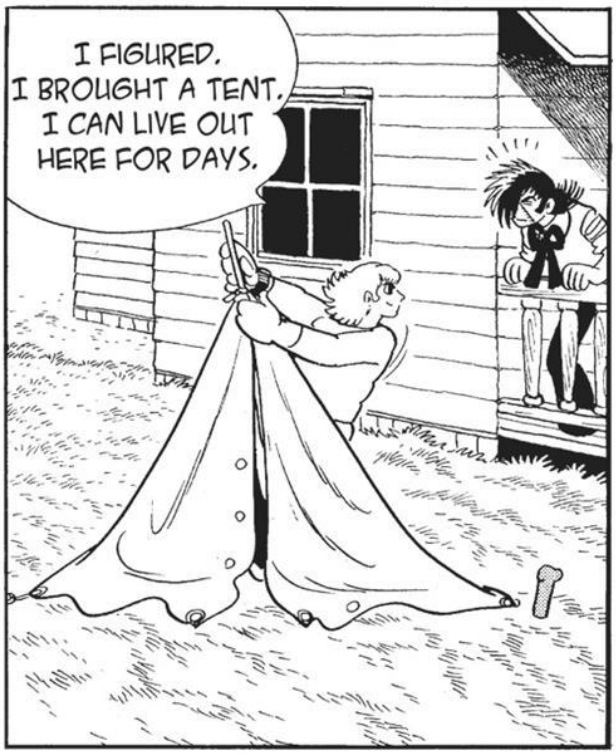

NOT JUST THE EPIDERMIS, EITHER. WE NEED SUBCUTANEOUS TISSUE AS WELL. IT'S CUMBERSOME. IT TAKES A LOT OF TIME AND FIRST WE NEED TO FIND A SKIN DONOR.

SEE?
SO HURRY AND DO IT!

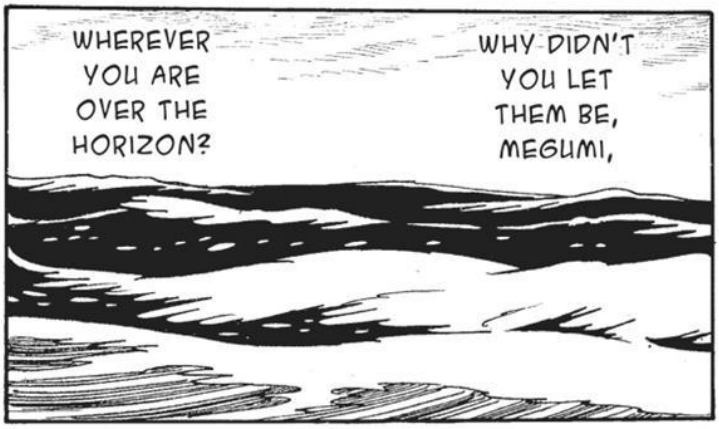
LISTEN UP.
GETTING RID OF YOUR TATTOO WILL BE A MAJOR OPERATION.
YOU NEED SOMEONE ELSE'S SKIN. UNDERSTAND?

BESIDES, THESE EPISODES ARE ONLY 20 PAGES LONG, RIGHT?
YOU'LL HAVE TO COME UP WITH SOMETHING PRETTY SOON.


SHUT UP!

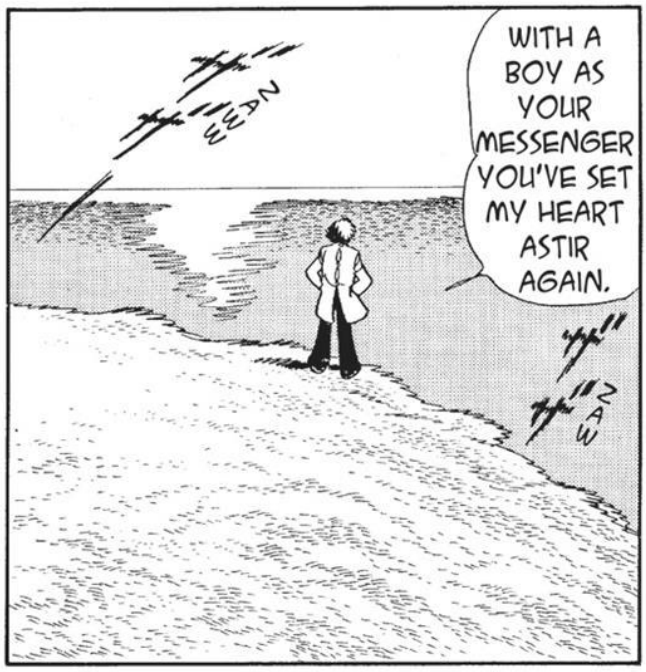

I FIGURED. I BROUGHT A TENT. I CAN LIVE OUT HERE FOR DAYS.

THOSE MEMORIES WE SHARE ...


WHEREVER YOU ARE OVER THE HORIZON?
WHY DIDN'T YOU LET THEM BE, MEGUMI,

MEGUMI ?
WHY? WHY,

HONG KONG. I ASKED THEM TO TATTOO ME A HOT BABE AND A CHINESE SAINT THEY DO.
WHERE'D YOU GET THEM?
YOU SURE WENT HOG WILD.

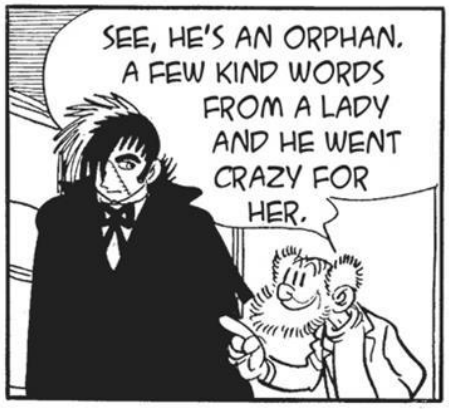

WITH A BOY AS YOUR MESSENGER YOU'VE SET MY HEART ASTIR AGAIN.
WEDN
ZAW

WHAT ARE YA, A COP? MIND YOUR OWN BEESWAX!
BUT YOU WANT TO GET RID OF THEM?
IT'S COOL. GIVES YOU HEFT, KNOW WHAT I MEAN?
YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO TATTOO EVERYWHERE, THOUGH...
EVER HEAR OF P... PRIVACY?
SHEDDAP! JUST DO YOUR JOB AND GET RID OF 'EM!
I HATE POINTLESS OPERA-TIONS ...
WHAT? YOU WANT US TO GIVE OUR BUTTS TO THAT DUMMY?
D'YA EVEN KNOW WHY HE WANTS NEW SKIN, MISTER?
FORGET IT! WHO'D WANT TO DONATE SKIN FOR THAT PUNK?
YOU BETTER NOT TRY TO RUN AWAY, DOC.
I'M GOING TO LOOK FOR A DONOR, MORON.
YEAH, HE'S A DECKHAND ON THIS SHIP!

HEAD OVER HEELS! HE WANTS TO GET RID OF HIS TATTOOS TO START FRESH FOR A DAME.
IN LOVE ?

NO, I DON'T.
HEH HEH! DOOFUS IS IN LOVE, THAT'S WHY.

I THINK THE NAME WAS KISARAGI.
SO WHO IS SHE?


SEE, HE'S AN ORPHAN. A FEW KIND WORDS FROM A LADY AND HE WENT CRAZY FOR HER.

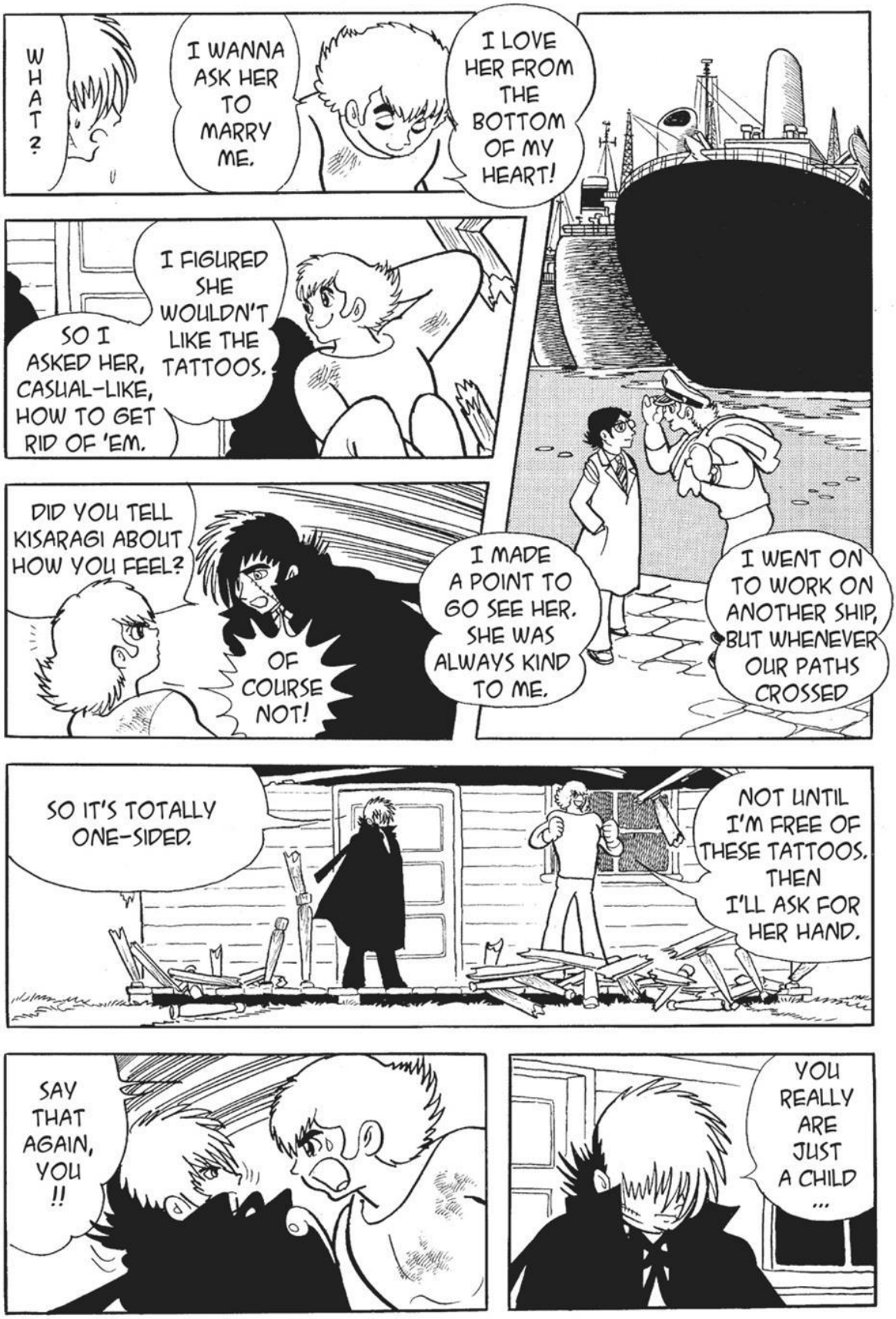
BUT HE'S JUST A KID!

IT CAN'T BE!
...

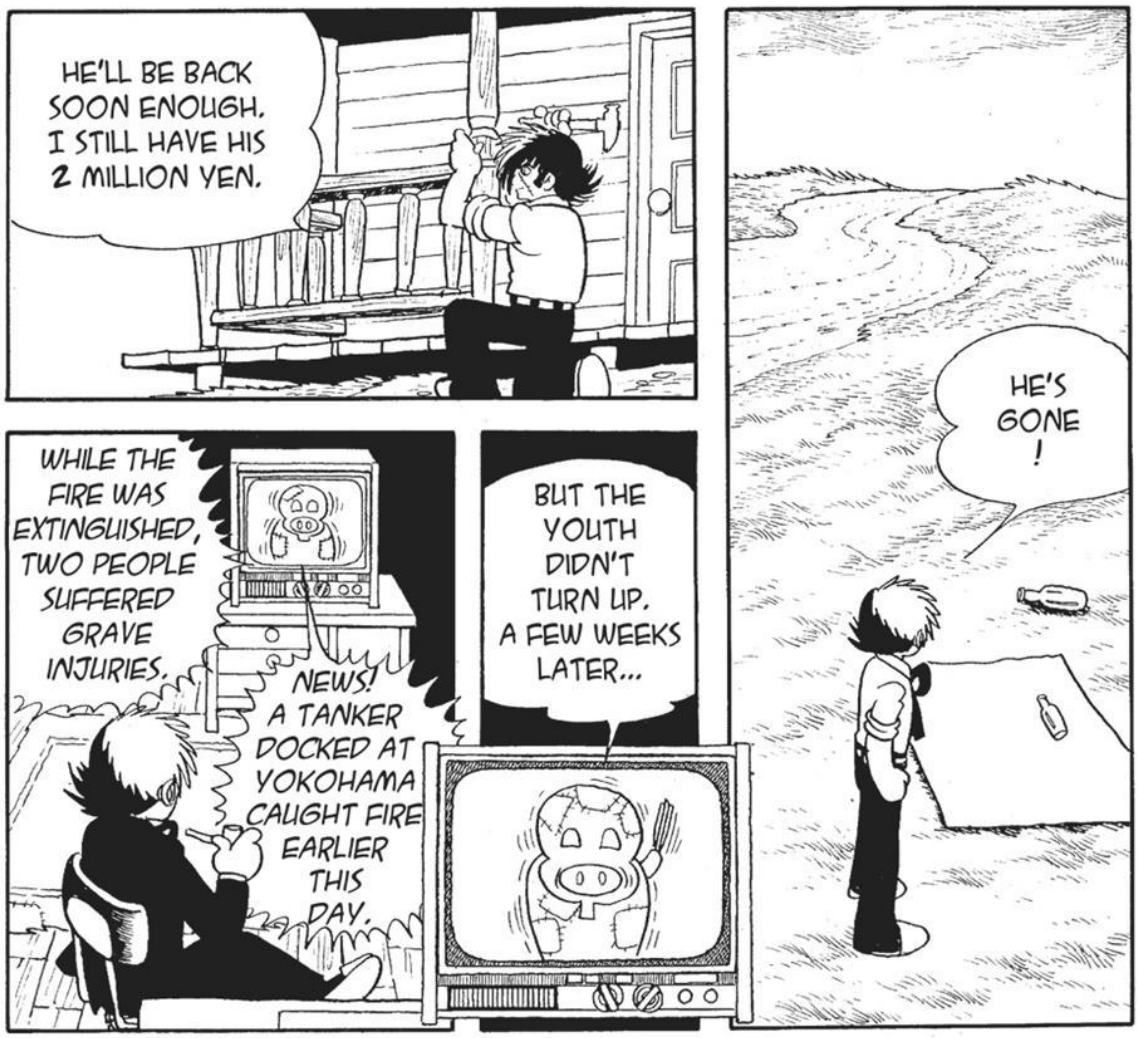
KISARAGI?

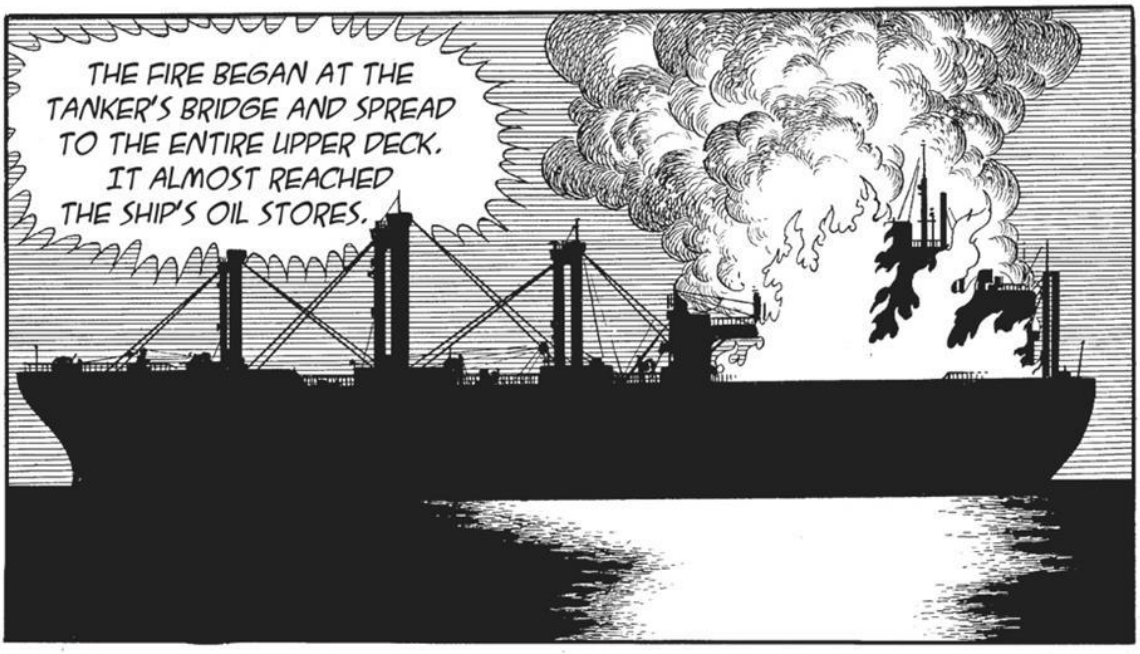
BOY, THIS RAILING'S IN BAD SHAPE.
I WAS TRYING TO FIX IT, TO SHOW MY 'PRECIATION.

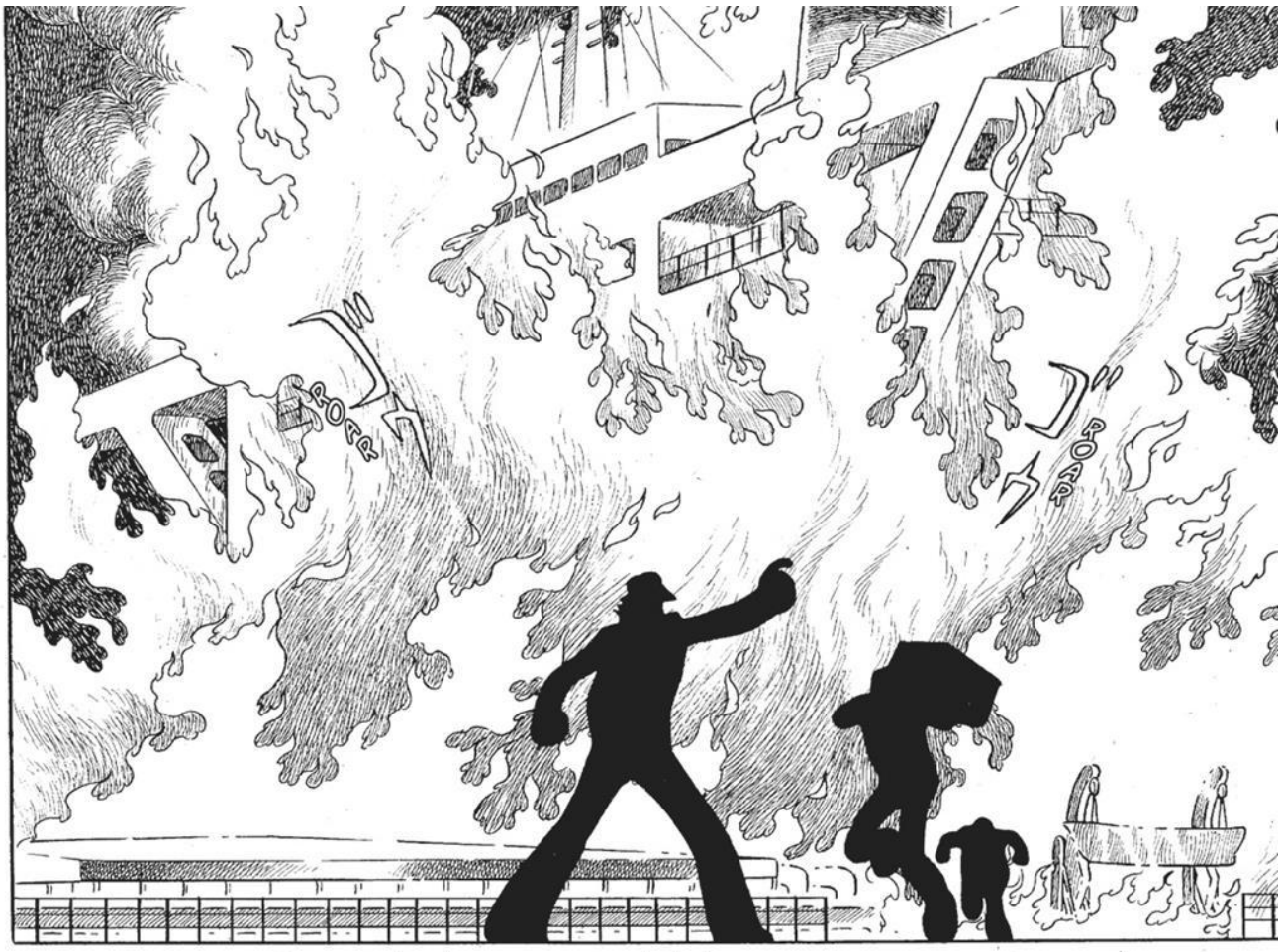
WHADDYA MEAN?
HUH ?
FOR DOCTOR KISARAGI'S SAKE ?
YOU WANT TO REMOVE YOUR TATTOOS
WHAT'S DOCTOR KISARAGI TO YOU?
I NEED TO ASK YOU SOME-THING.
SINCE WHEN ?
ALL RIGHT, I AM! I LOVE HER.
ARE YOU IN LOVE WITH DR. KISARAGI? WELL?
WHO TOLD YOU THAT?!
EVER SINCE... I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO GET HER OUT OF MY MIND.
THE DOC WAS REAL KIND, AN' I LOOKED UP TO HER—AS A BROTHER.
A YEAR AGO. SHE WAS ON THE SAME SHIP I WAS. SHE TREATED ME.
THEN ONE DAY, I FOUND OUT THAT SHE WAS REALLY A WOMAN.


WHAT?
I WANNA ASK HER TO MARRY ME.
I LOVE HER FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART!
I FIGURED SHE WOULDN'T LIKE THE TATTOOS.
SO I ASKED HER, CASUAL-LIKE, HOW TO GET RID OF 'EM.
DID YOU TELL KISARAGI ABOUT HOW YOU FEEL?
OF COURSE NOT!
I MADE A POINT TO GO SEE HER. SHE WAS ALWAYS KIND TO ME.
I WENT ON TO WORK ON ANOTHER SHIP, BUT WHENEVER OUR PATHS CROSSED
SO IT'S TOTALLY ONE-SIDED.
NOT UNTIL I'M FREE OF THESE TATTOOS. THEN I'LL ASK FOR HER HAND.
SAY THAT AGAIN, YOU !!
YOU REALLY ARE JUST A CHILD ...

YOU WANT TO BE A MAN? THEN ACCOMPLISH SOMETHING WORTHY OF THE NAME.
YOU THINK GETTING RID OF A FEW TATTOOS IS ENOUGH TO EARN A WOMAN'S LOVE? WHAT A JOKE!
WHO ASKED YOU? I DON'T CARE WHAT ANYONE SAYS, I'LL MARRY THE DOC.
THINK, AND MAKE A MAN OF YOURSELF BEFORE YOU PROPOSE.
STILL, HE MIGHT GET CARRIED AWAY AND CAUSE HER HARM...
SHE WOULDN'T TAKE THAT PUNK SERIOUSLY.
WHERE'D HE GO?
HEY, KID...

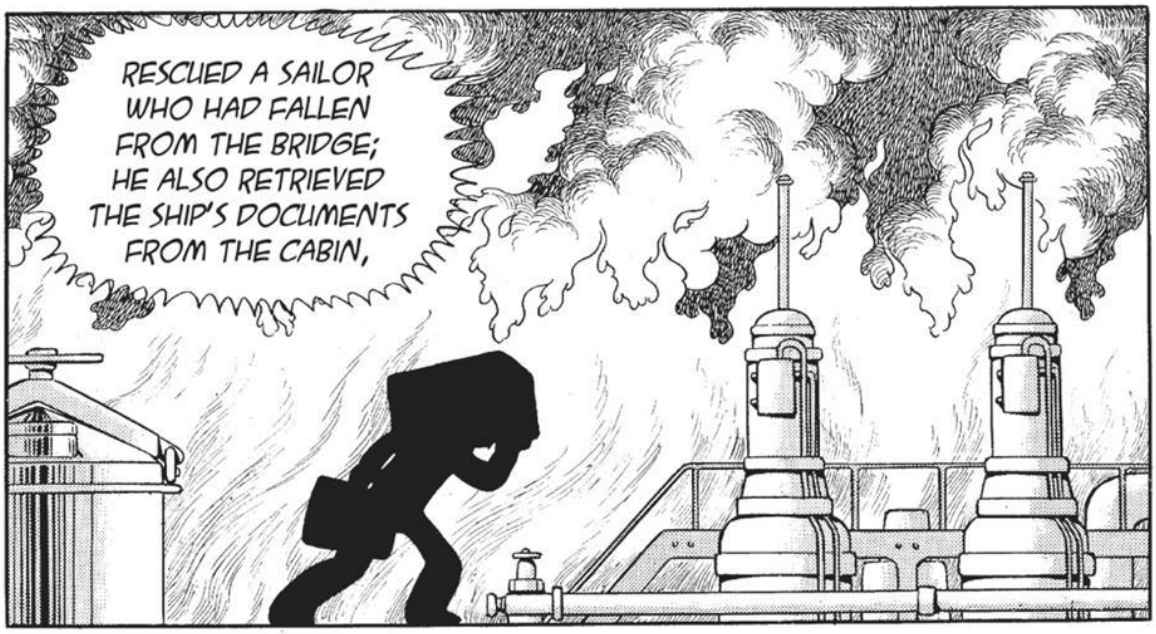

HE'LL BE BACK SOON ENOUGH. I STILL HAVE HIS 2 MILLION YEN.
HE'S GONE !
WHILE THE FIRE WAS EXTINGUISHED, TWO PEOPLE SUFFERED GRAVE INJURIES.
NEWS! A TANKER DOCKED AT YOKOHAMA CAUGHT FIRE EARLIER THIS DAY.
BUT THE YOUTH DIDN'T TURN UP. A FEW WEEKS LATER...


THE FIRE BEGAN AT THE TANKER'S BRIDGE AND SPREAD TO THE ENTIRE UPPER DECK. IT ALMOST REACHED THE SHIP'S OIL STORES.


BOOM
BOOM

THAT'S HIM!

AN APPRENTICE DECKHAND, AGE 16,


RESCUED A SAILOR WHO HAD FALLEN FROM THE BRIDGE; HE ALSO RETRIEVED THE SHIP'S DOCUMENTS FROM THE CABIN,

WHERE THE SAILOR DIED, AND THE DECKHAND IS IN IC. PORT AUTHORITY MAY AWARD A MEDAL
労災病

SUSTAINING SEVERE BURNS FROM HEAD TO TOE. THE TWO WERE TAKEN TO WORKERS' HOSPITAL,

HE WON'T MAKE IT, THEN?
THIS IS BAD.

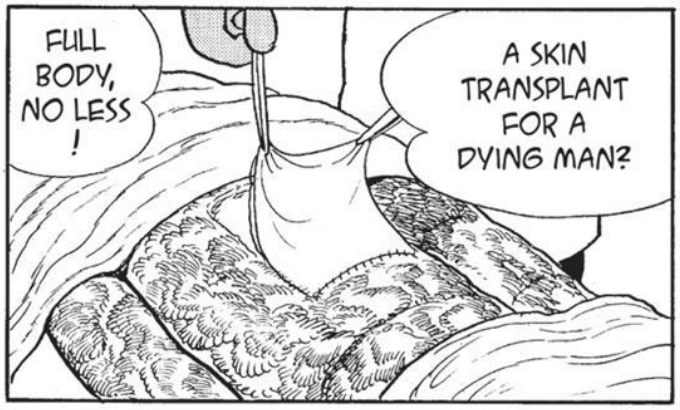
I'M HIS DOC-TOR.
WHERE'S THE YOUTH WHO WAS BURNED IN THE TANKER FIRE?

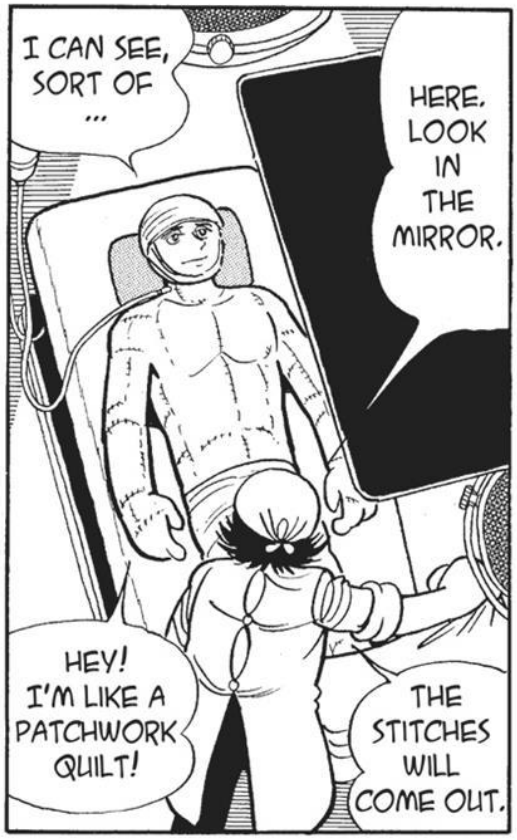
SEE FOR YOURSELF. HE'S IN RENAL FAILURE AND HIS DUODENUM IS HEMORRHAGING...
IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME.
IT'S TOO LATE.

IT'S A SKIN TRANS-PLANT ...
YOU WANT TO OPERATE? BUT IT'S COMPLETELY POINTLESS.

HE DIDN'T SUFFER ANY BURNS ?
THE OTHER ONE'S ALREADY DEAD.

YOU'RE A STRANGE ONE.


FULL BODY, NO LESS !
A SKIN TRANSPLANT FOR A DYING MAN?

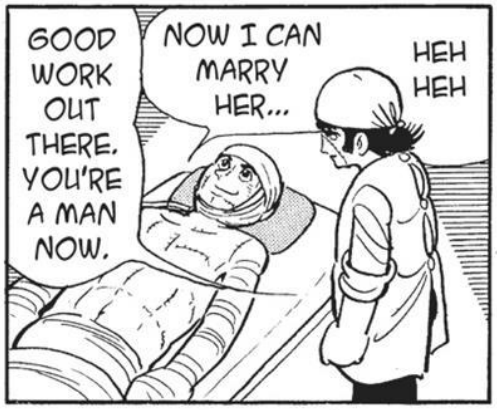

I CAN SEE, SORT OF ...
HERE. LOOK IN THE MIRROR.
HEY! I'M LIKE A PATCHWORK QUILT!
THE STITCHES WILL COME OUT.

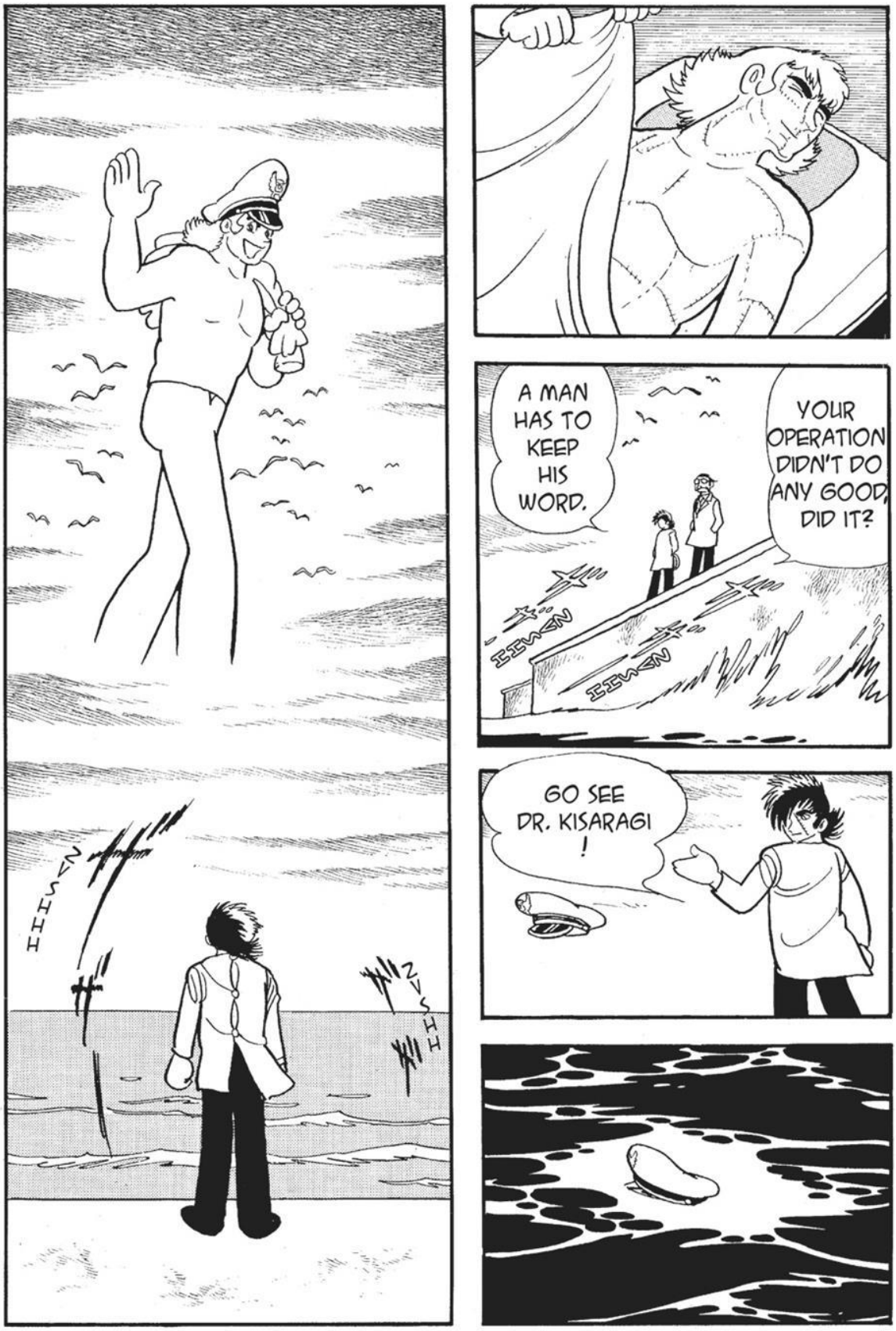
HE REGAINED CONSCIOUSNESS. THAT'S SOME WILLPOWER!

YES.
DID YOU OPERATE ?
HEYA, DOC ...

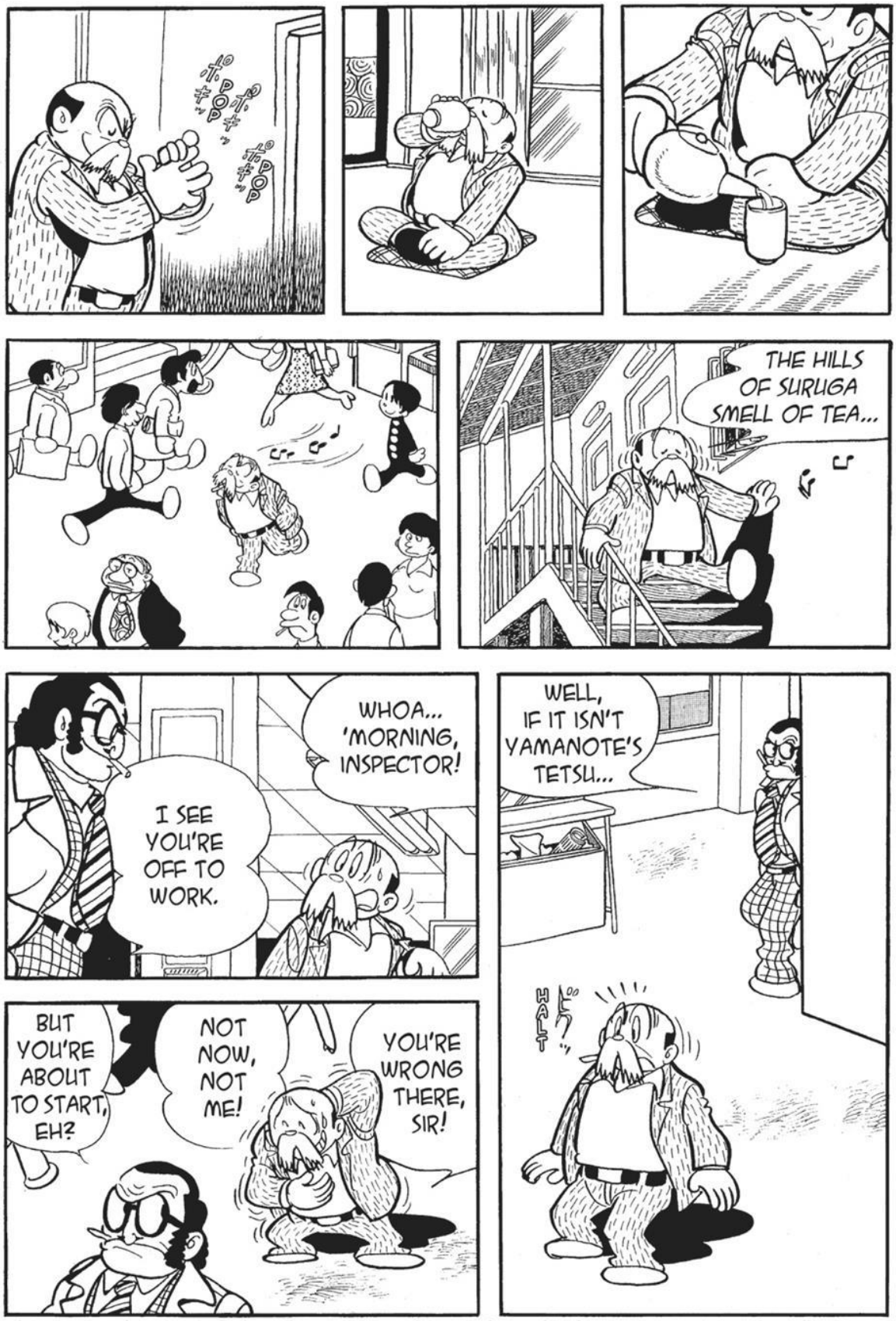
THANKS... CAN I SEE?
THEY'RE REALLY GONE ?

HE'S DEAD.

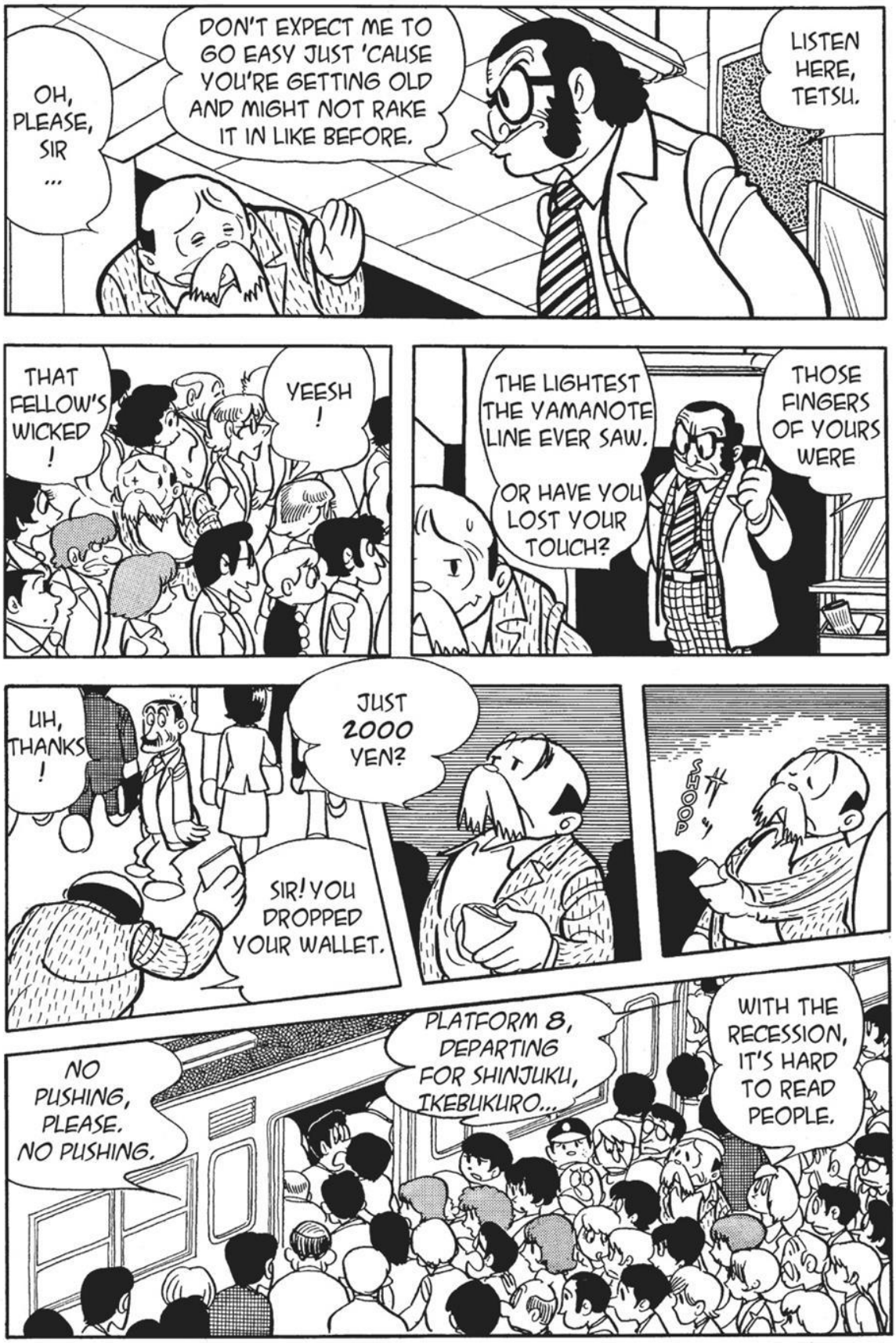

GOOD WORK OUT THERE. YOU'RE A MAN NOW.
NOW I CAN MARRY HER...
HEH HEH

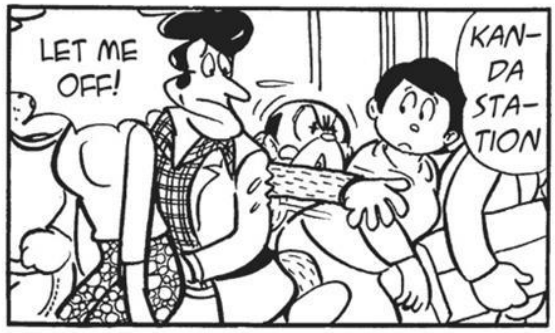

A MAN HAS TO KEEP HIS WORD.
YOUR OPERATION DIDN'T DO ANY GOOD, DID IT?
GO SEE DR. KISARAGI !

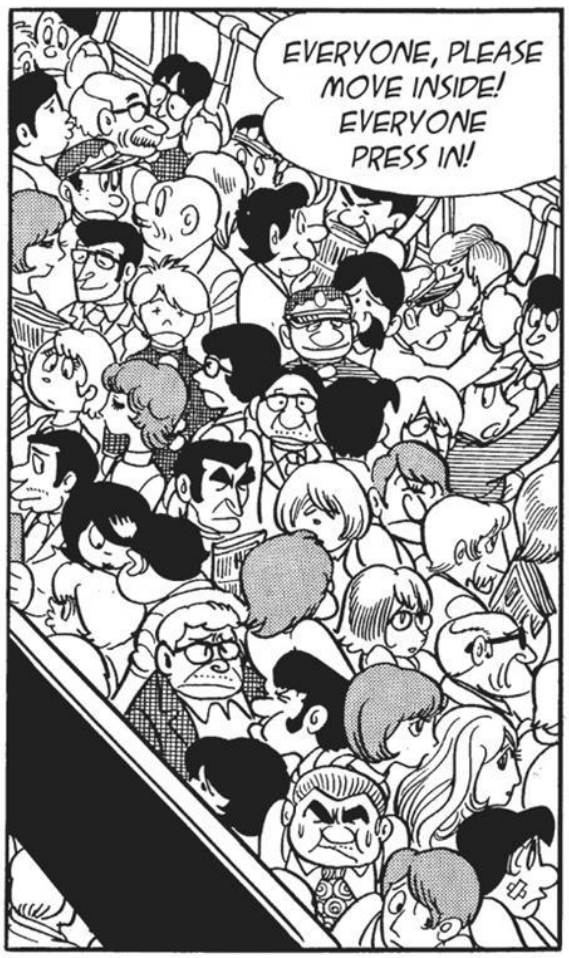
TETSU OF THE YAMANOTE LINE

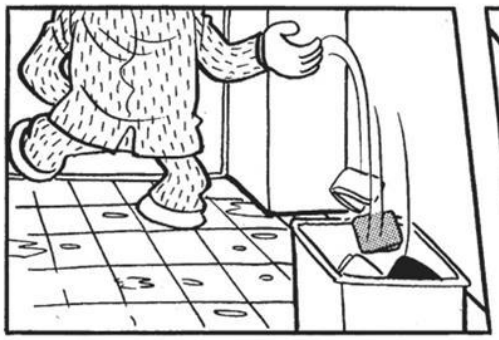


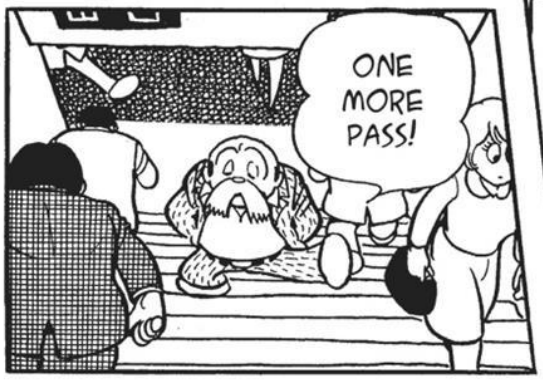
NOTE: THE NOTORIOUSLY CROWDED YAMANOTE LINE RUNS IN A CIRCLE CLOCKWISE AND COUNTERCLOCKWISE THROUGH MANY OF TOKYO'S MAJOR DISTRICTS.


OH, PLEASE, SIR ...
DON'T EXPECT ME TO GO EASY JUST 'CAUSE YOU'RE GETTING OLD AND MIGHT NOT RAKE IT IN LIKE BEFORE.
LISTEN HERE, TETSU.
THAT FELLOW'S WICKED !
YEESH !
THE LIGHTEST THE YAMANOTE LINE EVER SAW.
OR HAVE YOU LOST YOUR TOUCH?
THOSE FINGERS OF YOURS WERE
UH, THANKS !
JUST 2000 YEN?
SIR! YOU DROPPED YOUR WALLET.
NO PUSHING, PLEASE. NO PUSHING.
PLATFORM 8, DEPARTING FOR SHINJUKU, IKEBUKURO...
WITH THE RECESSION, IT'S HARD TO READ PEOPLE.

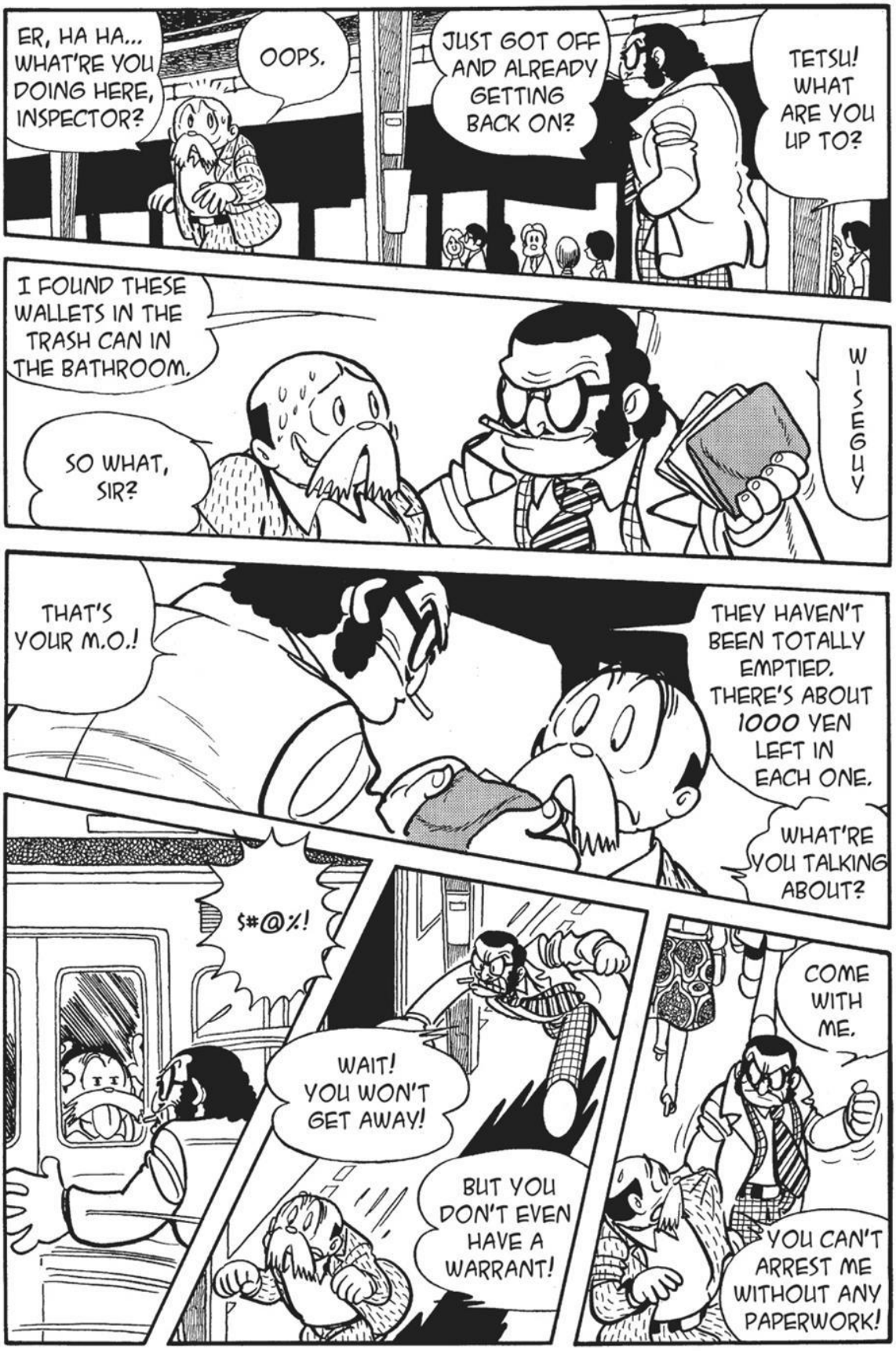

LET ME OFF!
KAN-DA STA-TION


EVERYONE, PLEASE MOVE INSIDE! EVERYONE PRESS IN!

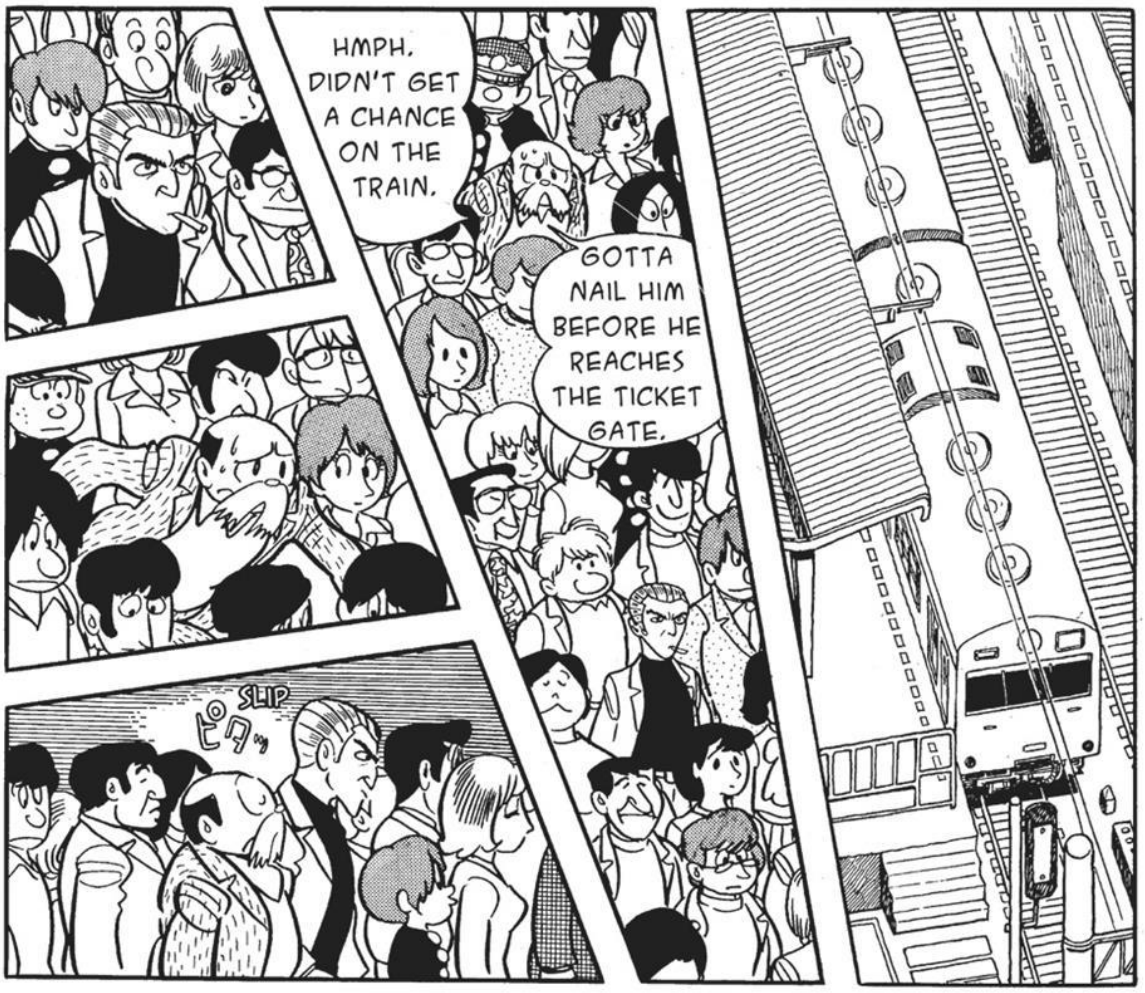



ONE MORE PASS!

DARN, JUST THREE THOU.
FIFTY IN THIS ONE!


ER, HA HA... WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE, INSPECTOR?
OOPS.
JUST GOT OFF AND ALREADY GETTING BACK ON?
TETSU! WHAT ARE YOU UP TO?
I FOUND THESE WALLETS IN THE TRASH CAN IN THE BATHROOM.
SO WHAT, SIR?
WISEGUY
THAT'S YOUR M.O.!
THEY HAVEN'T BEEN TOTALLY EMPTIED. THERE'S ABOUT 1000 YEN LEFT IN EACH ONE.
WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
$#@%!
WAIT! YOU WON'T GET AWAY!
BUT YOU DON'T EVEN HAVE A WARRANT!
COME WITH ME.
YOU CAN'T ARREST ME WITHOUT ANY PAPERWORK!

NOW THEN ...
SO LONG, SIR!
'SCUSE ME!
JUDGING BY HIS LOOKS, HE'S EITHER A BOOKIE OR A GANGSTER.
THAT NERVOUS LOOK IN HIS EYE... HE'S CARRYING MONEY.
THE PERFECT CHALLENGE!
THAT FELLOW'S GOT A BUNDLE.
HMM ...
AT LEAST 500,000!
HE'S GOT HIS GUARD UP.
A TOUGH CUSTOMER!
THIS IS A JOB FOR YAMA-NOTE'S TETSU!
BY HOOK OR BY CROOK, THE MONEY'S MINE.
IF I NAIL HIM I'LL CALL IT A DAY.

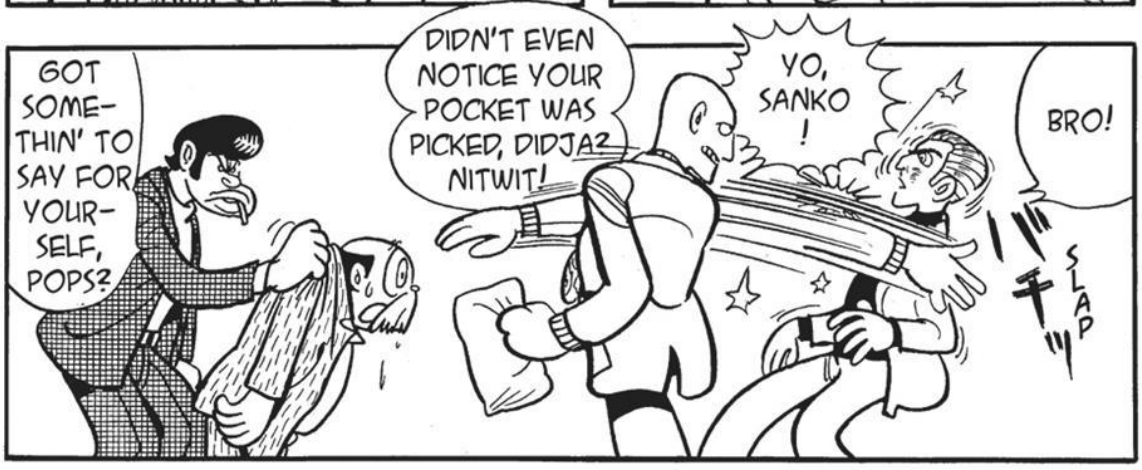

HMPH. DIDN'T GET A CHANCE ON THE TRAIN.
GOTTA NAIL HIM BEFORE HE REACHES THE TICKET GATE.
SLIP
ピタッ

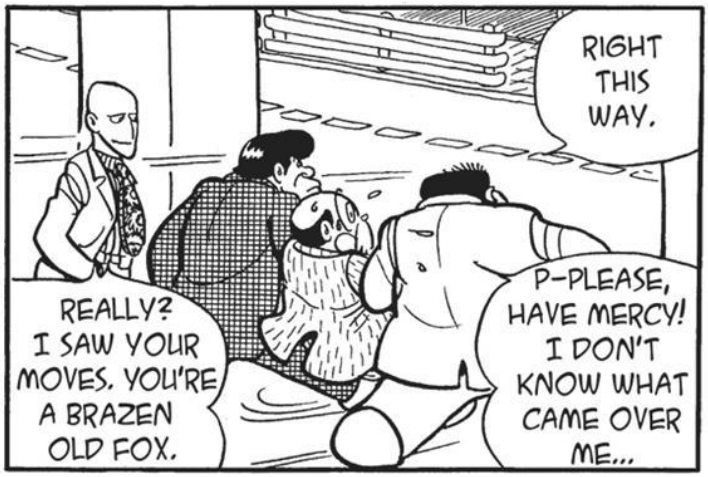
THE GIG'S UP, TETSU!
YOU TAKE ME LIGHTLY, DO YOU?
FINE. YOU'LL NEVER USE YOUR FINGERS AGAIN.
TODAY'S THE DAY I FINALLY CATCH HIM RED-HANDED.
THAT'S RIGHT, YAMANOTE'S TETSU IS BACK IN ACTION.
HE'S SOMEWHERE ON THE YAMANOTE LINE.

I DID IT !
LET'S HAVE A LOOK.
WHAT'S IN YOUR JACKET POCKET?
UH, IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS...
YES ...?
HEYA, POPS !

SHO

UNG!


GOT SOME-THIN' TO SAY FOR YOUR-SELF, POPS?
DIDN'T EVEN NOTICE YOUR POCKET WAS PICKED, DIDJA? NITWIT!
YO, SANKO!
BRO!
SLAP


RIGHT THIS WAY.
REALLY? I SAW YOUR MOVES. YOU'RE A BRAZEN OLD FOX.
P-PLEASE, HAVE MERCY! I DON'T KNOW WHAT CAME OVER ME...

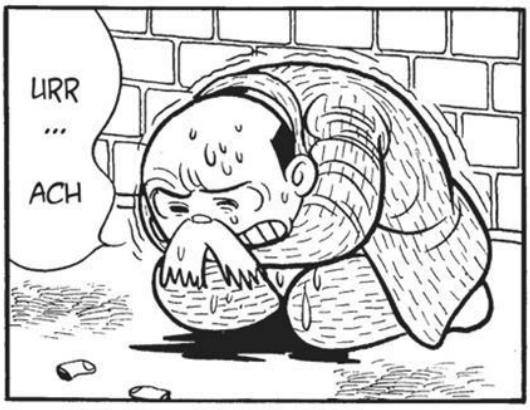
THOUGHT YOU COULD RIP OFF THE BLUE WHIPS, POPS? BIG MISTAKE!

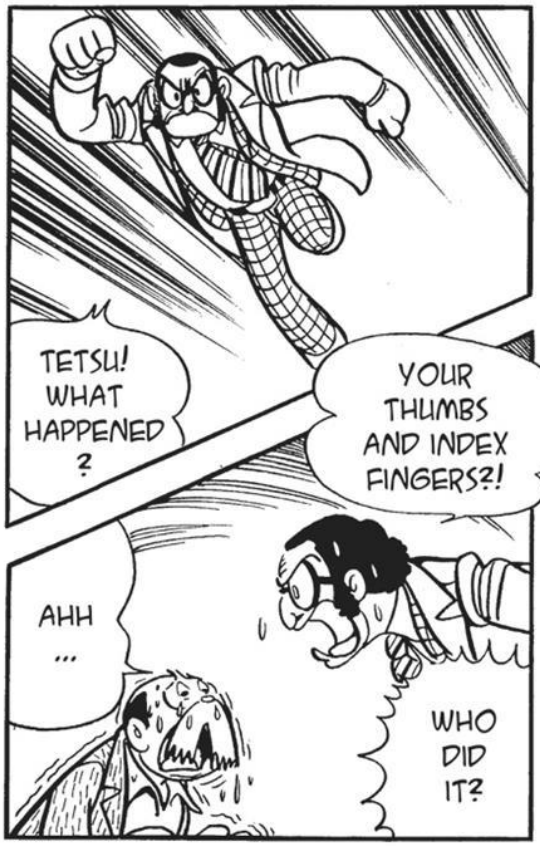
SEE THAT NOBODY DISTURBS US, SANKO!
WE CAN TAKE CARE OF THIS RIGHT HERE.
NO NEED TO TAKE HIM BACK TO HQ.
M-M... MERCY!

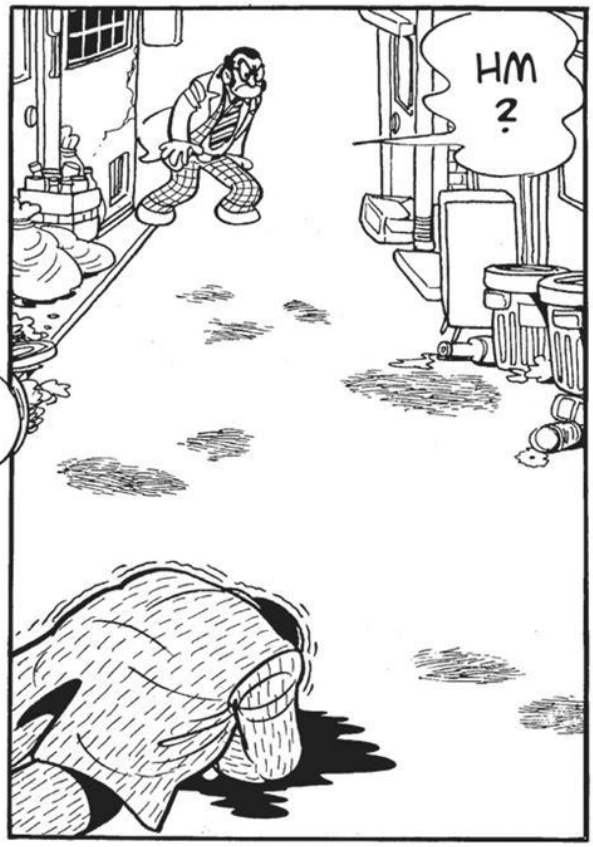
HOLD STILL!
GAAH!
DON'T WORRY, WE WON'T KILL YA.
THIS IS THE STATION. I CAN SMELL IT!
A SHORT OLD GUY WITH A MUSTACHE!
UHH... AN AWFUL LOT OF FOLKS PASS THROUGH HERE...
OKAY... NOW THE OTHER HAND!
HRGFF!
AAAARG!

THAT'LL TEACH YA!
MOAN

URR ...


URR ... ACH


TETSU! WHAT HAPPENED ?
YOUR THUMBS AND INDEX FINGERS?!
AHH ...
WHO DID IT?


HM ?

OVER HERE!
WAIT THERE, I'LL CALL AN AMBULANCE.
INSPECTOR, I... I JUST COULDN'T RESIST...!
HIS PICK-POCKETING CAREER'S OVER FOR GOOD.
POLICE HOSPITAL
警察病院
EVEN IF THEY COULD
CAN'T THEY SAVE HIS FINGERS? THEY WERE JUST SLICED OFF.
AS FOR ANYTHING THAT REQUIRES EXTRA NIMBLE FINGER WORK, FORGET IT!
THAT DOESN'T MEAN HE'D HAVE FULL USE OF THEM.
I SUPPOSE IT'S FOR THE BEST, DON'T YOU?
GOOD OLD TETSU ...

BUT I PROMISED I'D CATCH HIM RED-HANDED ONE DAY.
YOU SORTA DID!

YOU'RE RIGHT ...

SORRY? NO WAY!
YOU'RE NOT FEELING SORRY FOR OL' TETSU, ARE YOU? YOU, THE FAMOUS OGRE OF SECTION THREE?

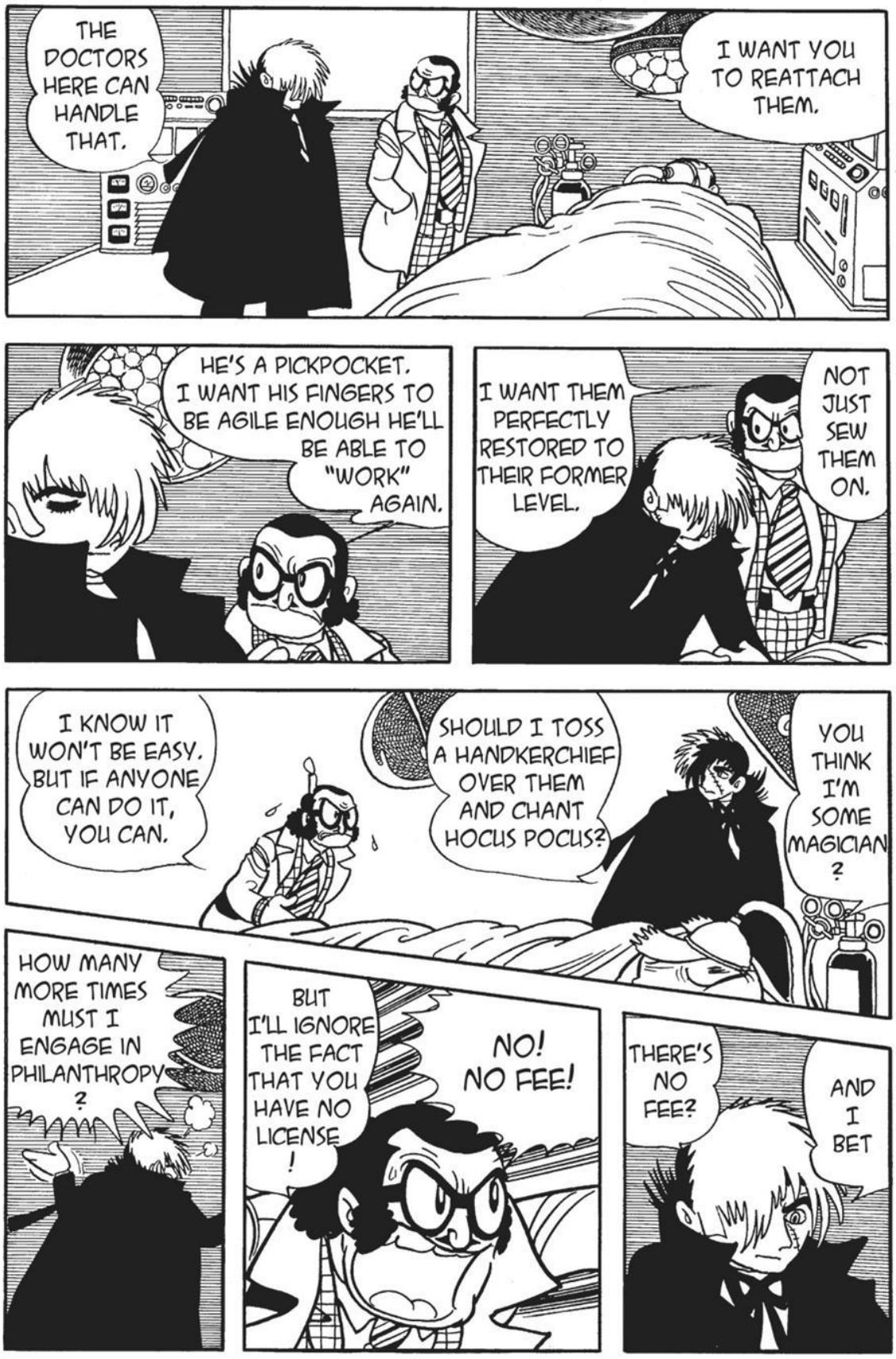
MIND IF I CALL IN A DOCTOR I KNOW?

I WAS JUST THINKING ABOUT HIS SURGERY.

WELL, YES ...
IT STICKS IN MY CRAW, JUST THE SAME.

IT'S INSPECTOR TOMOBIKI OF THE METROPOLITAN POLICE FORCE. YOU OPERATED ON MY SON ONCE.
HELLO, DR. BLACK JACK?

I'LL FILE A REPORT ON YOU WITH PUBLIC SECURITY ...
OH? WELL, IF YOU DON'T COME,
I GOT A REQUEST.
STILL WORKING ON THE SLY?
PLEASE, GO RIGHT AHEAD.
JUST THE SIGHT OF YOUR FACE MAKES ME WANT TO PUKE, INSPECTOR.
AND RIGHT. I MEAN IT.
SO GET TO WORK, OR ELSE.
AND YOU'LL HAVE ME ARRESTED IF I REFUSE?
YOU WANT ME TO OPERATE ON SOME DEADBEAT
FOUR SEVERED DIGITS !
THANKS FOR THE NEWS FLASH.
WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?
A DIRTY COP, AREN'T YA.


THE DOCTORS HERE CAN HANDLE THAT.
I WANT YOU TO REATTACH THEM.
HE'S A PICKPOCKET. I WANT HIS FINGERS TO BE AGILE ENOUGH HE'LL BE ABLE TO "WORK" AGAIN.
I WANT THEM PERFECTLY RESTORED TO THEIR FORMER LEVEL.
NOT JUST SEW THEM ON.
I KNOW IT WON'T BE EASY. BUT IF ANYONE CAN DO IT, YOU CAN.
SHOULD I TOSS A HANDKERCHIEF OVER THEM AND CHANT HOCUS POCUS?
YOU THINK I'M SOME MAGICIAN?
HOW MANY MORE TIMES MUST I ENGAGE IN PHILANTHROPY?
BUT I'LL IGNORE THE FACT THAT YOU HAVE NO LICENSE!
NO! NO FEE!
THERE'S NO FEE?
AND I BET

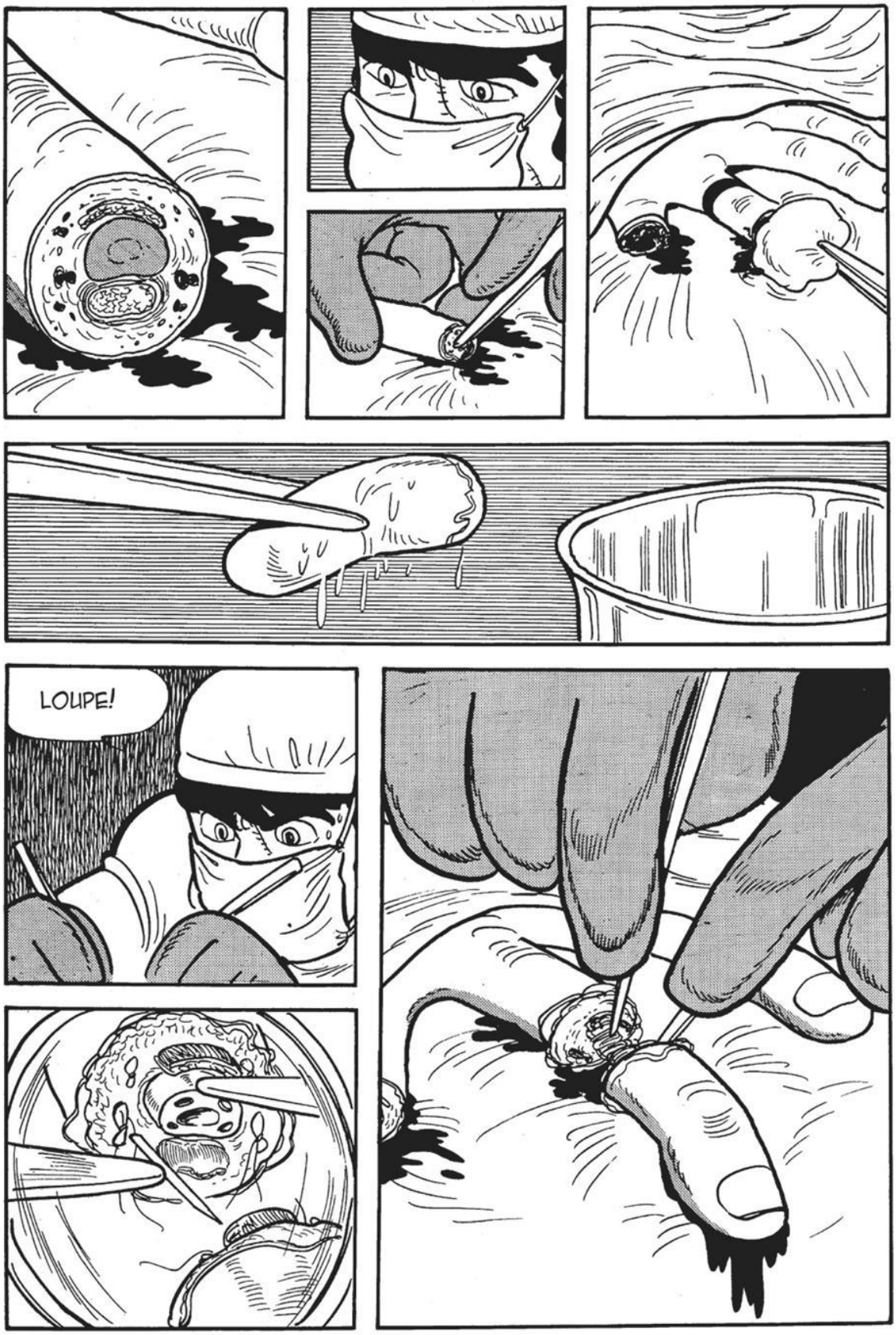
SHOW ME.

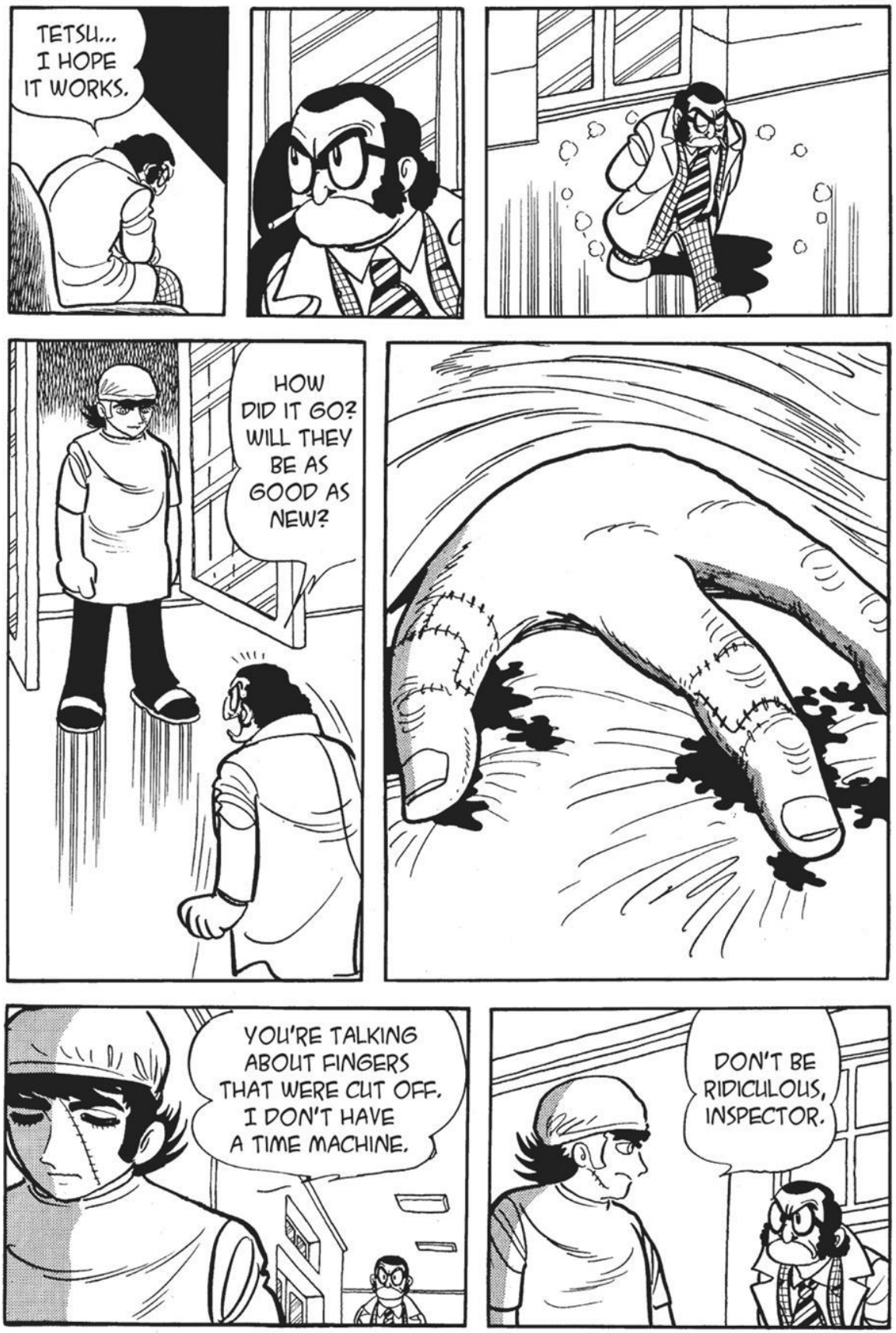
AH... NO FEAR OF NECROSIS, THEN.
THEY WERE SEVERED THREE HOURS AGO.

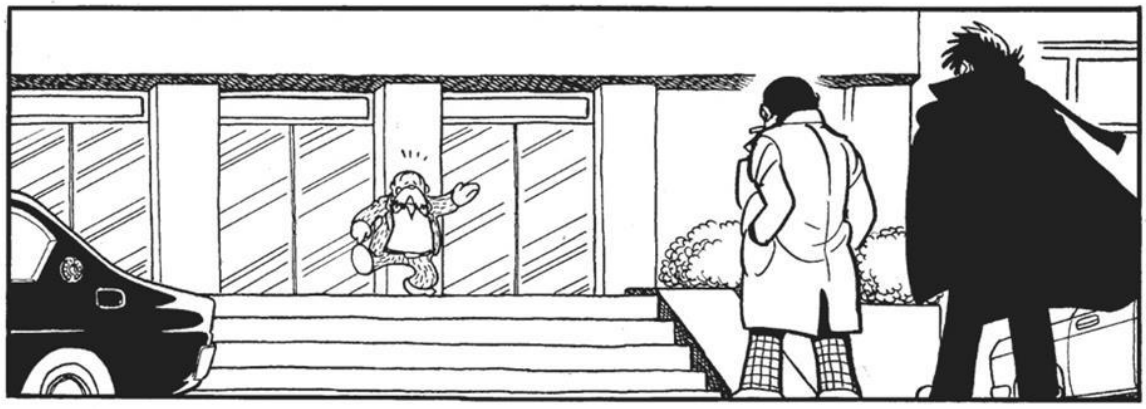
THE OLD MAN IS A THIEF, BUT HE LIVES BY HIS FINGERS LIKE YOU. YOU CAN SYMPATHIZE, CAN'T YA?
WITH A SCALPEL IN YOUR HANDS YOU'RE A GENIUS. IF YOU LOST YOUR FINGERS, WHAT'D YOU LIVE FOR?

NORMALLY I'D CHARGE ONE MILLION PER FINGER. A 4 MILLION YEN LOSS!

WELL ?


LOUPE!


TETSU... I HOPE IT WORKS.
HOW DID IT GO? WILL THEY BE AS GOOD AS NEW?
YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT FINGERS THAT WERE CUT OFF. I DON'T HAVE A TIME MACHINE.
DON'T BE RIDICULOUS, INSPECTOR.

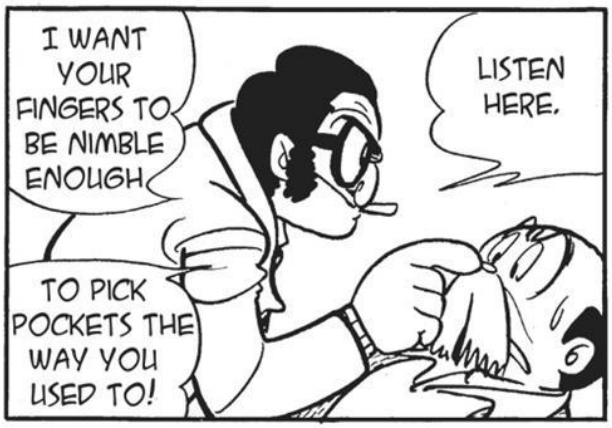


ALL HEALED UP.
HEH HEH!

HMPH. ARE YOU SURE THERE'S NO DAMAGE?

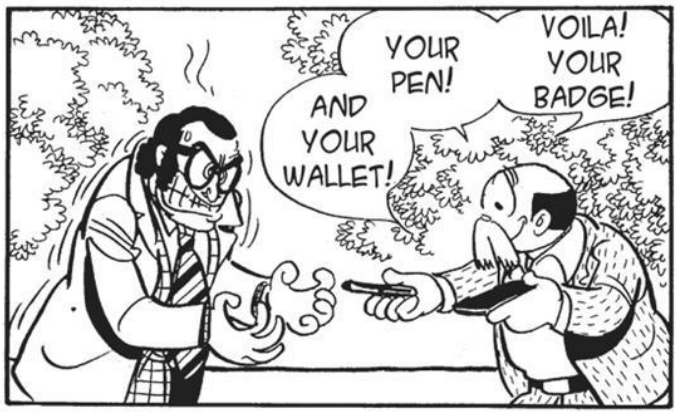
SURE!
SEE?
CAN YOU MOVE THEM LIKE BEFORE?

I DON'T KNOW HOW TO THANK YOU, DOCTOR.


I WANT YOUR FINGERS TO BE NIMBLE ENOUGH
LISTEN HERE.
TO PICK POCKETS THE WAY YOU USED TO!

I CAN USE CHOPSTICKS, AND I CAN WIPE MY BUM, TOO!
THEY WORK JUST FINE!

YESSIR. THANKS FOR EVERYTHING !
GET LOST !!
I DON'T WANT TO SEE THEM.
IF ALL YOUR FINGERS CAN DO NOW IS WIPE YOUR OWN DAMN BUTT,
HUH ?!
NOW I FIND OUT YOU'VE DONE A HALF-ASSED JOB. YOU LEAVE ME NO CHOICE!
I THOUGHT WE HAD AN AGREEMENT, DOCTOR.
I HAD FAITH IN YOUR ABILITIES !
I ENTRUSTED TETSU TO YOUR CARE CUZ
THAT DIRTY SCUM!!
WHERE'S MY BADGE?


AND YOUR WALLET!
YOUR PEN!
VOILA! YOUR BADGE!

AW, I WAS JUST SHOWIN' YA!
Y-YOU'RE UNDER ARREST!

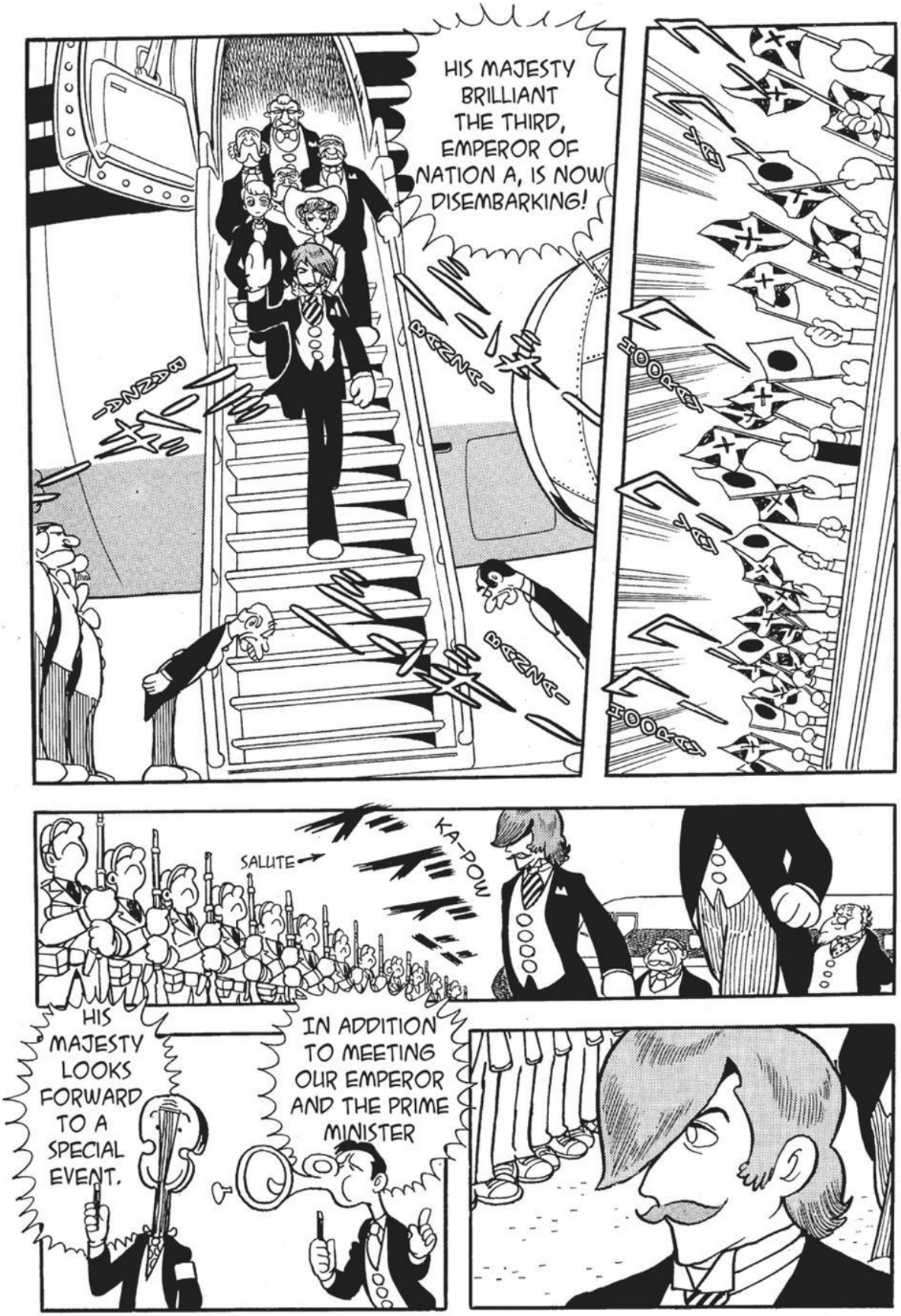
OH ...
SEE? MY FINGERS ARE GOOD AS NEW!

TETSU !!
YOU FILTHY ...!

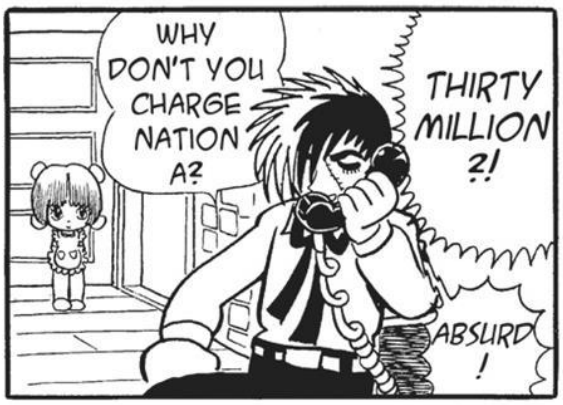
EH, NONE OF THAT TONIGHT, SIR.
ONE OF THESE DAYS, I'LL NAB YOU.

WHADDYA SAY WE TIP A FEW BACK AND TOAST THE GREAT DOCTOR BLACK JACK, INSPECTOR?
WELL, THAT'S JUST... GREAT!

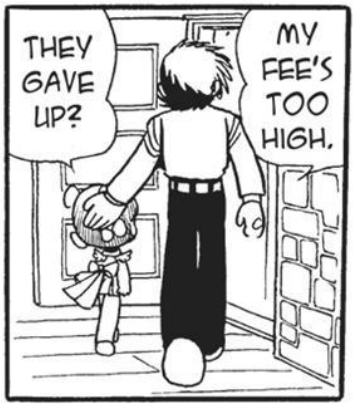
TITLES


HIS MAJESTY BRILLIANT THE THIRD, EMPEROR OF NATION A, IS NOW DISEMBARKING!
SALUTE
KA-POW
HIS MAJESTY LOOKS FORWARD TO A SPECIAL EVENT.
IN ADDITION TO MEETING OUR EMPEROR AND THE PRIME MINISTER

HAS MADE PLANS TO OBSERVE THE WORK OF A HIGHLY-SKILLED JAPANESE SURGEON!
HIS MAJESTY, HIMSELF AN ACCOMPLISHED DOCTOR,
DOCTOR BLACK JACK! HIS MAJESTY BRILLIANT III WANTS TO OBSERVE YOUR SKILLS.
R-R-R-RING!
FOREIGN MINISTER, I HOPE YOU AREN'T EXPECTING ME TO WORK FOR FREE.
HMF!
THE PATIENT HAS A HEART CONDITION OF SORTS.
HE HAS EVEN BROUGHT A PATIENT FROM NATION A FOR YOU TO TREAT.
I'LL BE COMPENSATED FOR THIS SURGERY, YES?
AH... UHM...
WOULD YOU BE SO KIND AS TO PERFORM AN OPERATION WHILE HIS MAJESTY OBSERVES?

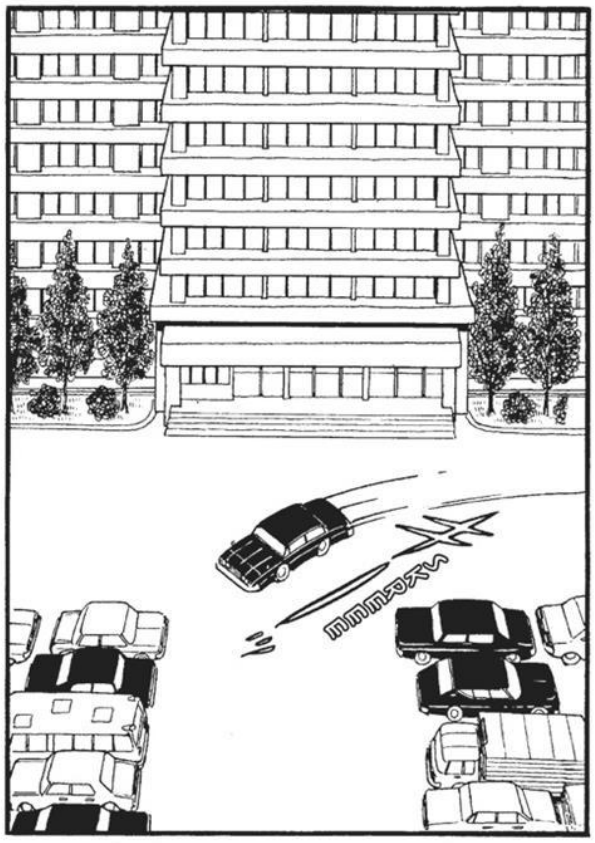

WHY DON'T YOU CHARGE NATION A?
THIRTY MILLION ?!
ABSURD !

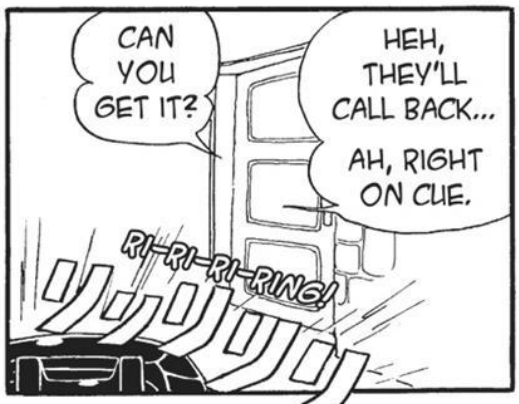
THAT'S 30 MILLION YEN AFTER TAXES.
UH, OF COURSE !


THEY GAVE UP?
MY FEE'S TOO HIGH.

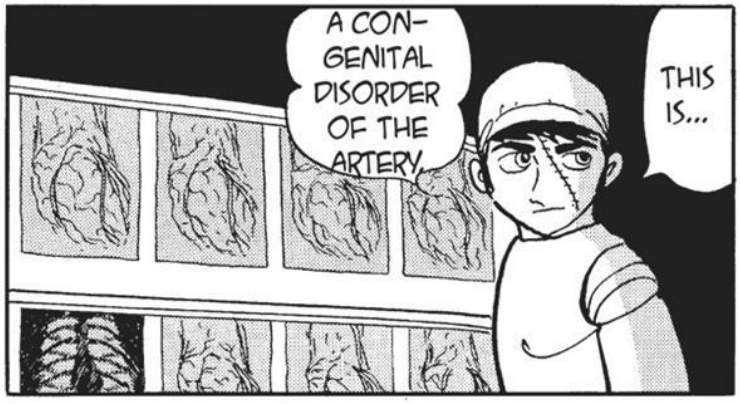
TIME FOR SHUPPER !

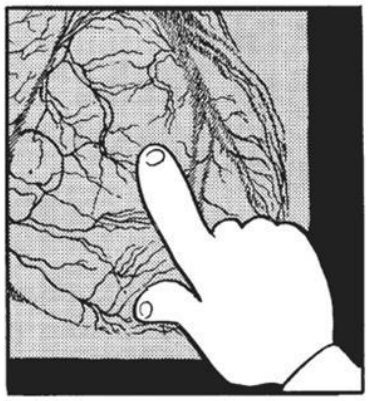
HOW DARE YOU?
THEN GIVE UP !




CAN YOU GET IT?
HEH, THEY'LL CALL BACK...
AH, RIGHT ON CUE.
RI-RI-RI-RING!

SEE?
DOCTOR! THEY AGWEE TO PAY 30 MILLION!


A CON-GENITAL DISORDER OF THE ARTERY.
THIS IS...

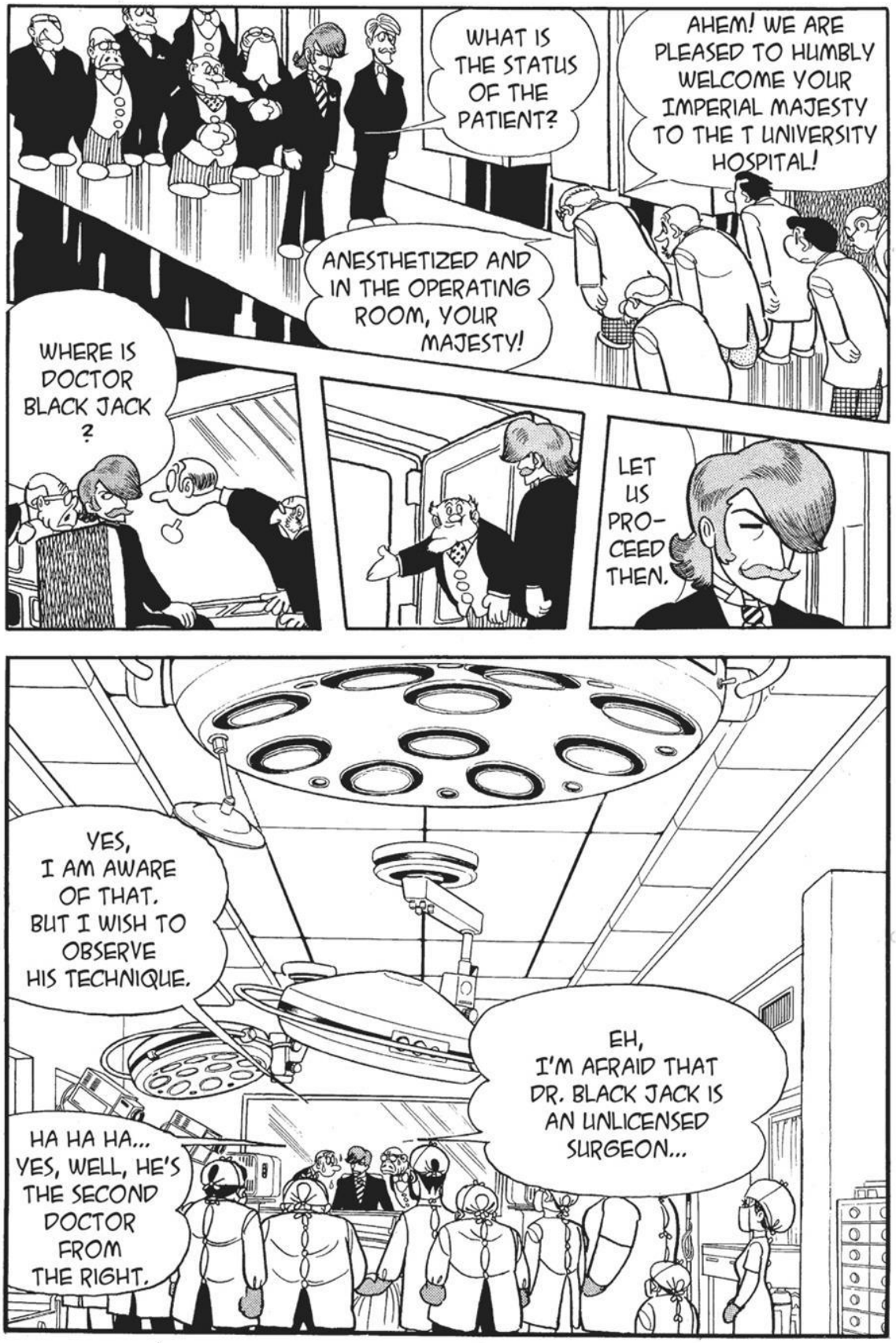


THIS SHOULDN'T BE HARD.
THE ONLY JAPANESE DOCTOR TO EVER CURE IT IS PROF. SUZUKI OF J UNIVERSITY.

YES, ANOMALOUS ORIGIN, CORO-NARY AND PULMONARY.

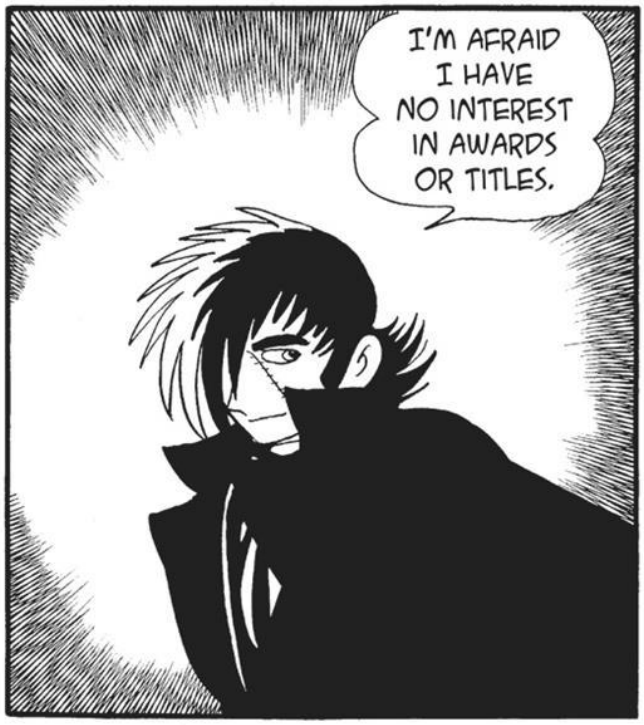
PRESENTING HIS MAJESTY BRILLIANT THE THIRD!
JAPAN MARITIME CLUB

I HOPE YOU REALIZE WHAT A RARE HONOR IT IS TO OPERATE HERE AT T UNIVERSITY.
DON'T FORGET THAT YOU AREN'T EVEN LICENSED.


WHAT IS THE STATUS OF THE PATIENT?
AHEM! WE ARE PLEASED TO HUMBLY WELCOME YOUR IMPERIAL MAJESTY TO THE T UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL!
ANESTHETIZED AND IN THE OPERATING ROOM, YOUR MAJESTY!
WHERE IS DOCTOR BLACK JACK ?
LET US PRO-CEED THEN.
YES, I AM AWARE OF THAT. BUT I WISH TO OBSERVE HIS TECHNIQUE.
EH, I'M AFRAID THAT DR. BLACK JACK IS AN UNLICENSED SURGEON...
HA HA HA... YES, WELL, HE'S THE SECOND DOCTOR FROM THE RIGHT.

THIS HAS BEEN MY DREAM ...
AT LAST !
I SEE. THAT'S HIM ?
SAY WHAT?!
YOUR IMPERIAL MAJESTY! WE WILL NOW COMMENCE SURGERY TO SEPARATE AND RECONNECT THE CORONARY ARTERY. THE T UNIVERSITY 2ND SURGICAL TEAM WILL PERFORM THE OPERATION. I, INOUE, DIRECTOR OF SURGERY, WILL LEAD.
YOU'RE NOT EVEN A REAL DOCTOR.
DON'T BE FOOLISH.
I THOUGHT I WAS LEADING THIS OPERATION.
JUST A MINUTE.
DEMON-STRATION FOR ROYAL EYES !!
YOU SHOULD BE GRATEFUL FOR THE HONOR OF PARTICIPATING IN A...
THIS ISN'T WHAT I AGREED TO!

IF YOU LEAVE
THEY WILL BLAME IT ON ME!
COME NOW, DOCTOR, DON'T BE DIFFICULT.
SO LONG.
YOU IMPUDENT... HIS MAJESTY IS WATCHING!
IF THAT'S YOUR GAME, YOU CAN OPERATE WITHOUT ME.
ABSOLUTELY NOT!
DOCTOR !!
THAT'S WHY I ASKED T UNIVERSITY TO FRONT IT FOR APPEARANCES, WHILE YOU...
THIS IS THE EMPEROR OF NATION A! IT WOULD LOOK BAD FOR JAPAN IF WE LET AN UNLICENSED DOCTOR LEAD ...
ON THE PHONE, YOU ASKED ME TO OPE-RATE.
YOU LIED, FOREIGN MINISTER ...
YES, WELL, ER...


I'M AFRAID I HAVE NO INTEREST IN AWARDS OR TITLES.

PLEASE, DON'T MAKE ME LOSE FACE.

I'LL ARRANGE FOR YOU TO WIN A NATIONAL AWARD!

TELL HIS MAJESTY THAT IF HE WANTS TO SEE ME OPERATE, HE CAN COME TO MY HOUSE WHERE I BASE MY ILLEGAL PRACTICE...

CANCEL IT.

NO ...
PROF. INOUE WILL BEGIN NOW.

I'LL HAVE TO RESIGN!
YOU DIRTY QUACK !

POOR DOCTOR, LOSING OUT.

DO YOU EVEN KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS?

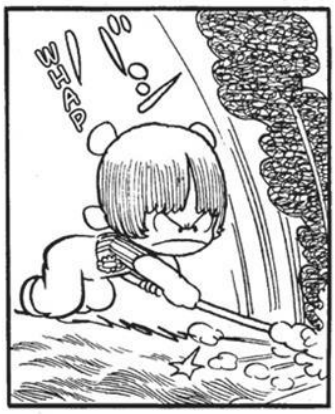
IT MEANS EVEN THOUGH THE EMPEWOR CAME FOR YOU, YOU FOUGHT AND LEFT.

I DON'T CARE THAT HE'S AN EMPEROR.
I DIDN'T FIGHT.

I COULD TEND THEM FOR HIM!

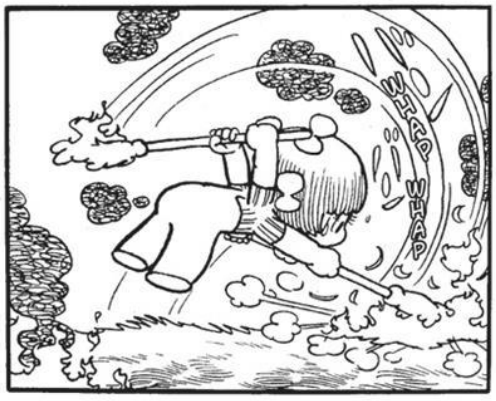
PALASHES USUALLY HAVE FLOWER GAWDENS.

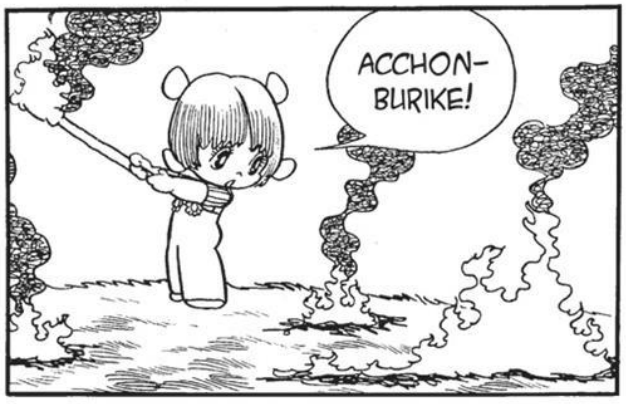
I WANT TO MAKE FWIENDS WITH HIM
AND GET INVITED TO NASHUN A.


SHAA

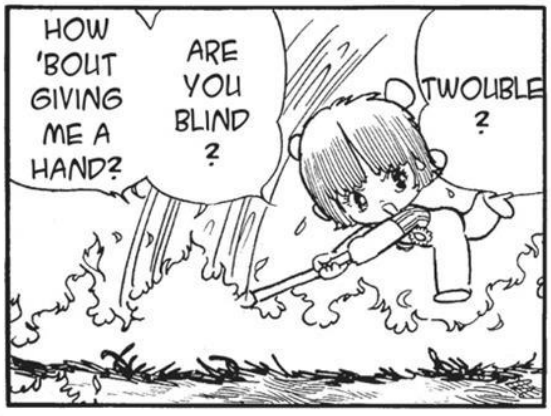
SHIGO

UH

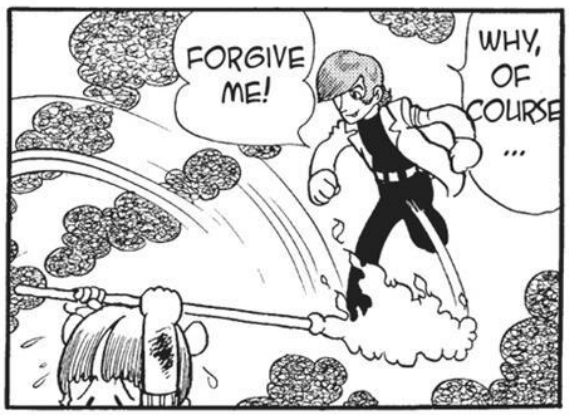

SHAA
SHAA

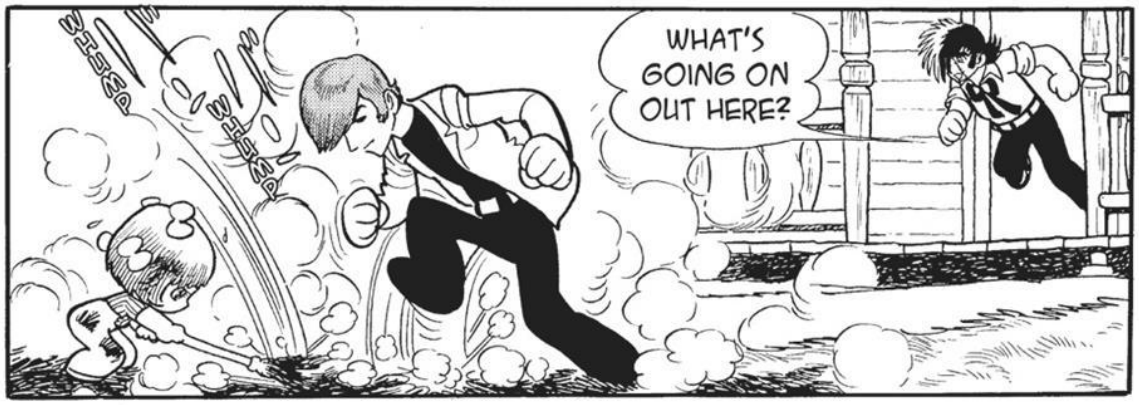

ACCHON-
BURIKE!

WHAT
SEEMS TO
BE THE
TROUBLE?


HOW
'BOUT
GIVING
ME A
HAND?
ARE
YOU
BLIND
?
TWOUBLE
?

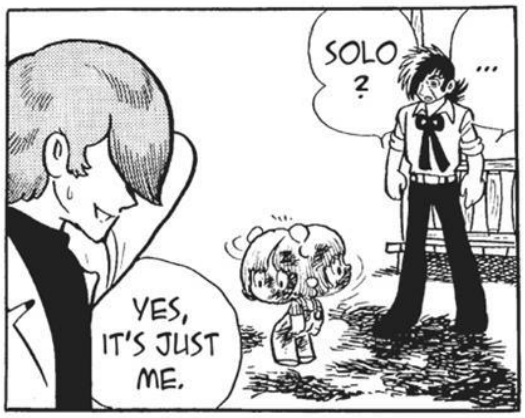
NOOO!
WHAP
WHAP


FORGIVE ME!
WHY, OF COURSE ...

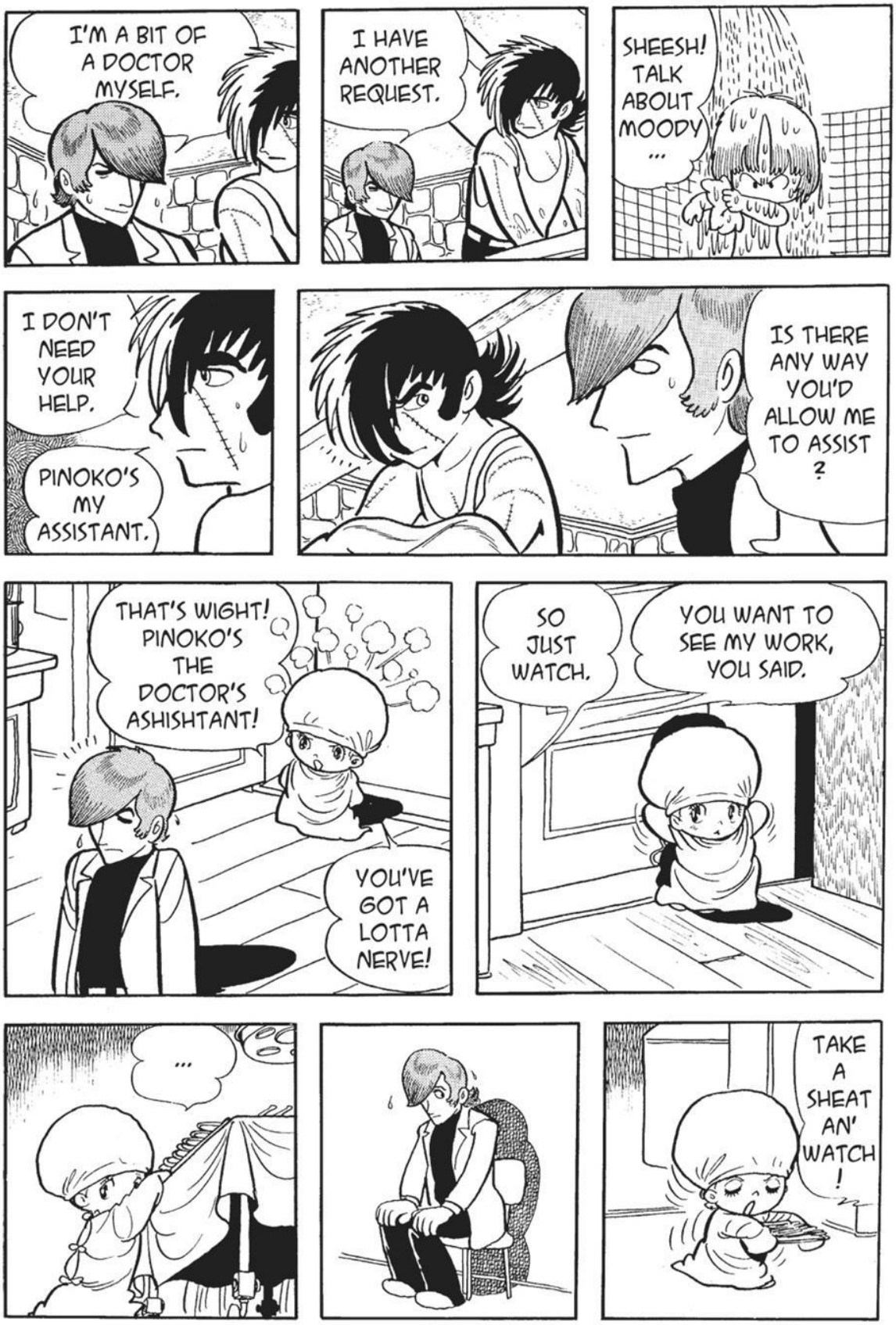

WHAT'S GOING ON OUT HERE?

OH, NOFING! NOFING AT ALL.

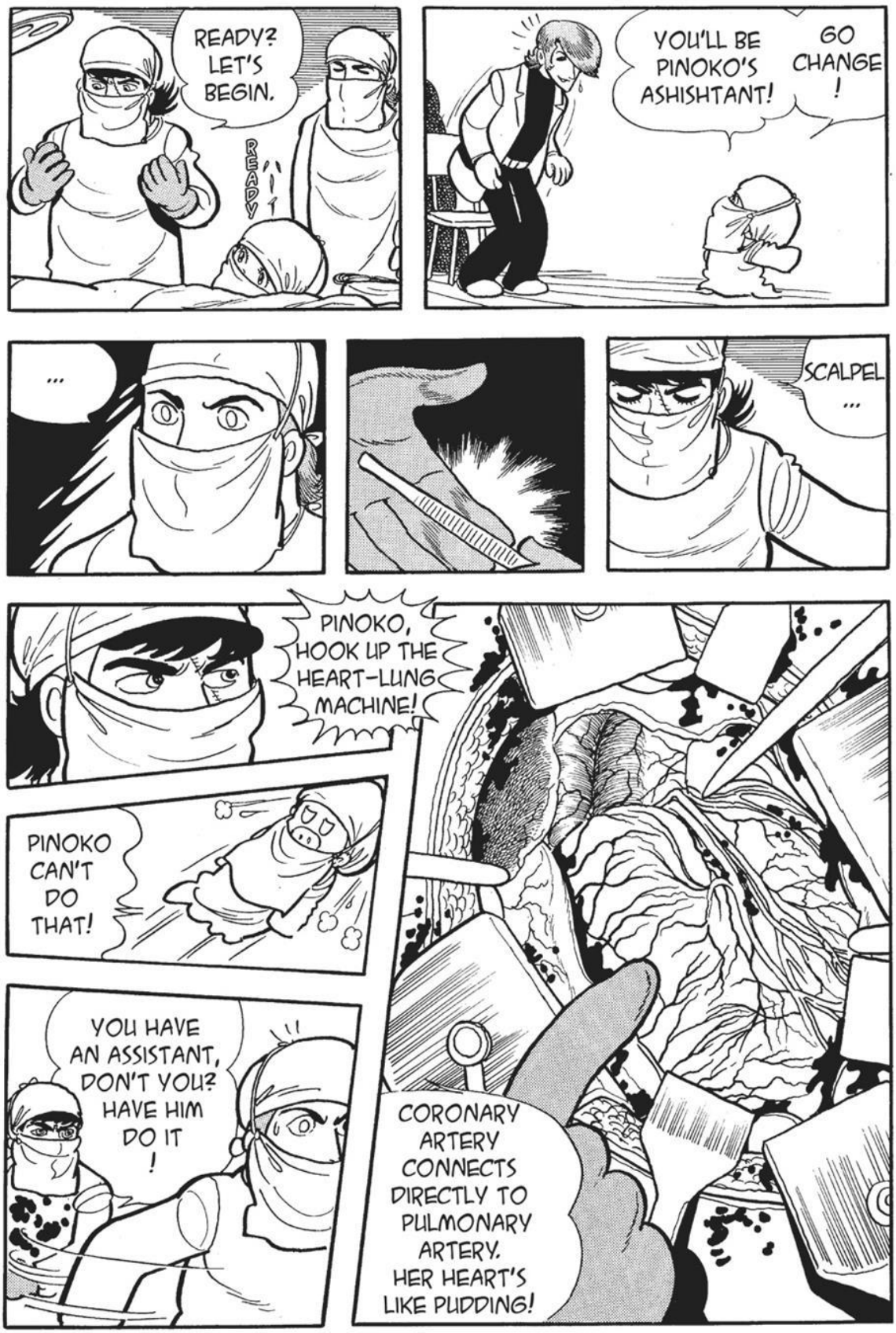
DOCTOR, I CAME TO ASK YOU TO OPERATE ...

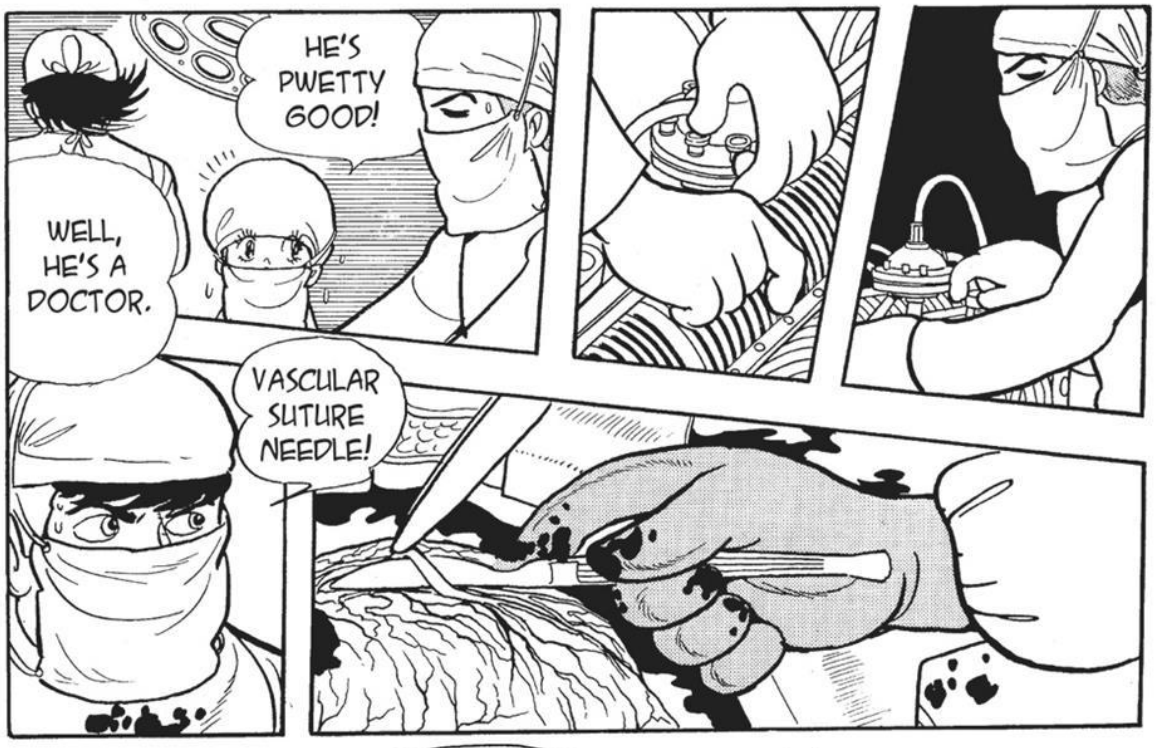

SOLO ?
...
YES, IT'S JUST ME.

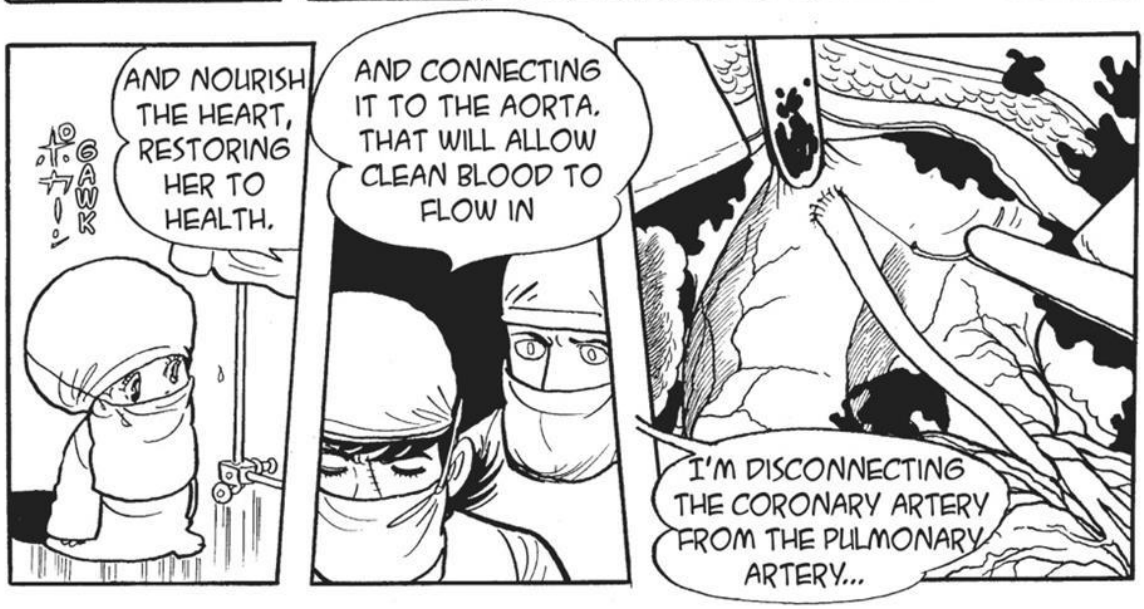
I BROUGHT YOU THE PATIENT. IF YOU'D BE SO KIND...
WHAT DO YOU SAY? CAN YOU OPERATE HERE?
HMM, CONGENITAL DEFECT OF THE CORONARY ARTERY.
...
I KNOW!
WHY ME? I DON'T WORK FOR FREE, YOU KNOW ...
I BROUGHT THIRTY MILLION YEN.
PINOKO! GET WASHED UP AND READY FOR SURGERY!
I WISH TO OBSERVE YOUR WORK, DOCTOR BLACK JACK.
LET ME ASK AGAIN. WHY NOT A HOSPITAL?


I'M A BIT OF A DOCTOR MYSELF.
I HAVE ANOTHER REQUEST.
SHEESH! TALK ABOUT MOODY ...
I DON'T NEED YOUR HELP.
PINOKO'S MY ASSISTANT.
IS THERE ANY WAY YOU'D ALLOW ME TO ASSIST ?
THAT'S WIGHT! PINOKO'S THE DOCTOR'S ASHISHTANT!
YOU'VE GOT A LOTTA NERVE!
SO JUST WATCH.
YOU WANT TO SEE MY WORK, YOU SAID.
...
TAKE A SHEAT AN' WATCH !

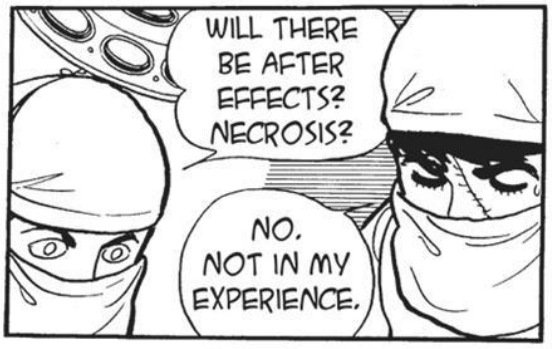
HE'S SHAD ?
I DIDN'T ASHK ANYFING ...
NO !
UHM ...
HEY, DOCTOR ?
BUT DOCTOR, HE'S HAND-SHOME !
MAYBE NOT AS GOOD AS PINOKO...
HE'D PWOBABLY DO FINE!
BUT I FINK HE'S OKAY.
MAYBE YOU COULD LET HIM HELP.
HE LOOKS PWETTY SHAD.
HE WON'T MEDDLE WITH MY WORK!
NO WAY !
YOU USE HIM!
I DON'T CARE IF HE HELPS YOU.
IF YOU WANT HIM TO ASSIST SO MUCH

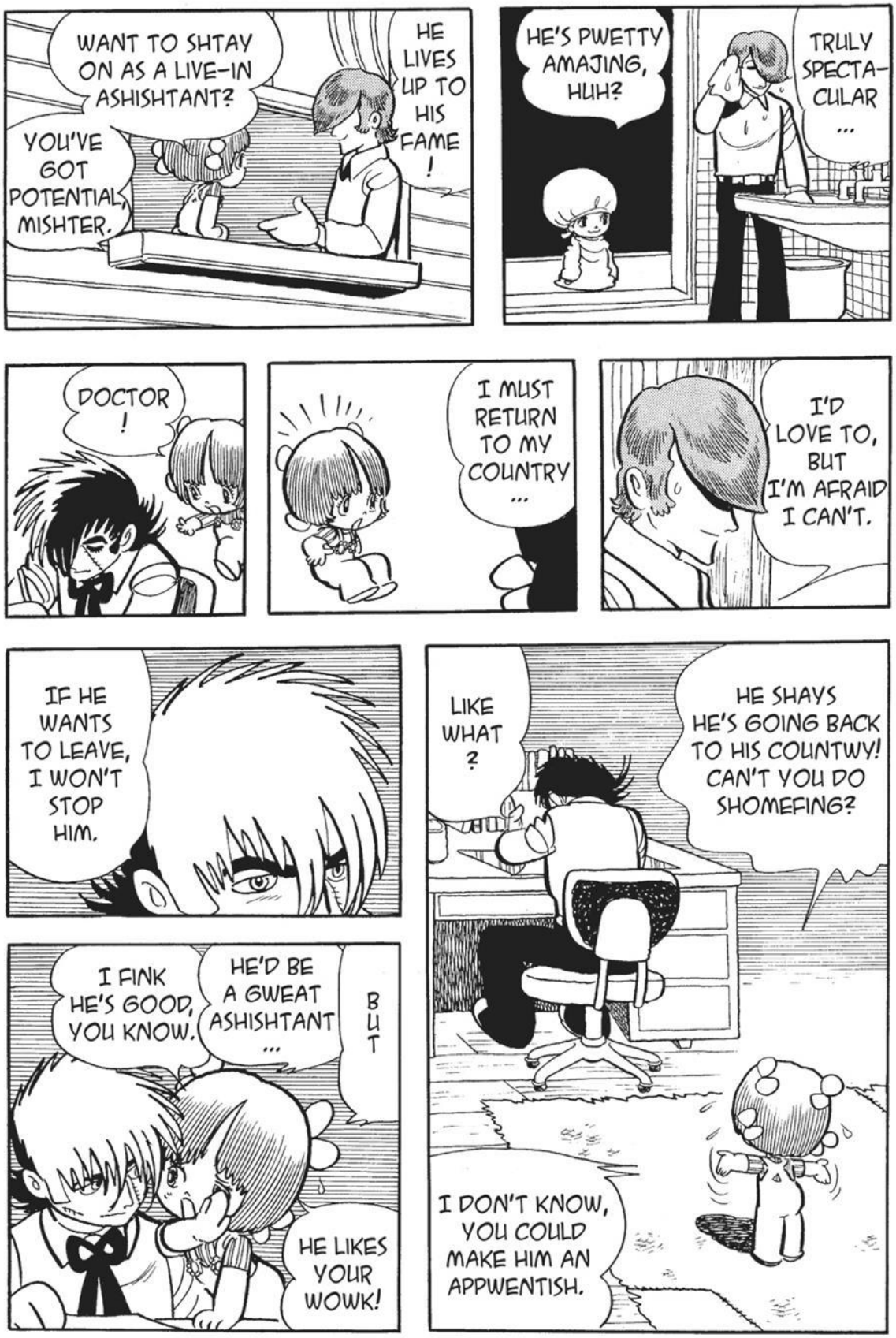

READY? LET'S BEGIN.
READY ハーイ
YOU'LL BE PINOKO'S ASHISHTANT!
GO CHANGE !
...
SCALPEL ...
PINOKO, HOOK UP THE HEART-LUNG MACHINE!
PINOKO CAN'T DO THAT!
YOU HAVE AN ASSISTANT, DON'T YOU? HAVE HIM DO IT !
CORONARY ARTERY CONNECTS DIRECTLY TO PULMONARY ARTERY. HER HEART'S LIKE PUDDING!

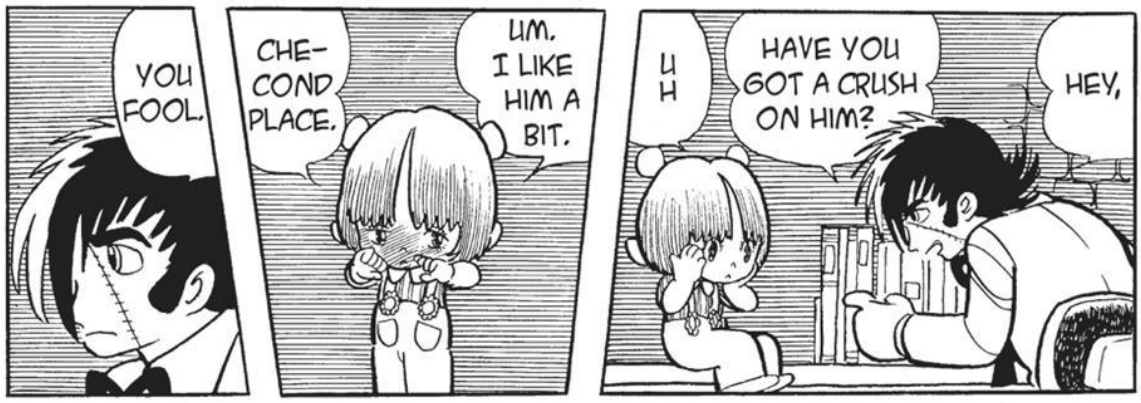

HE'S PWETTY GOOD!
WELL, HE'S A DOCTOR.
VASCULAR SUTURE NEEDLE!


AND NOURISH THE HEART, RESTORING HER TO HEALTH.
GAWK
AND CONNECTING IT TO THE AORTA. THAT WILL ALLOW CLEAN BLOOD TO FLOW IN
I'M DISCONNECTING THE CORONARY ARTERY FROM THE PULMONARY ARTERY...

HAH...
THAT WAS FAST!
DONE. YOU TWO WRAP IT UP.


WILL THERE BE AFTER EFFECTS? NECROSIS?
NO. NOT IN MY EXPERIENCE.

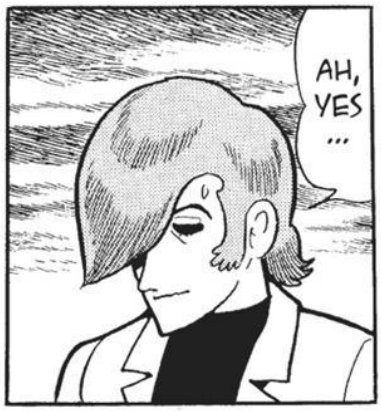

WANT TO SHTAY ON AS A LIVE-IN ASHISHTANT?
HE LIVES UP TO HIS FAME!
YOU'VE GOT POTENTIAL, MISHTER.
HE'S PWETTY AMAJING, HUH?
TRULY SPECTA-CULAR ...
DOCTOR!
I MUST RETURN TO MY COUNTRY ...
I'D LOVE TO, BUT I'M AFRAID I CAN'T.
IF HE WANTS TO LEAVE, I WON'T STOP HIM.
LIKE WHAT?
HE SHAYS HE'S GOING BACK TO HIS COUNTWY! CAN'T YOU DO SHOMEFING?
I FINK HE'S GOOD, YOU KNOW.
HE'D BE A GWEAT ASHISHTANT ...
BUT
HE LIKES YOUR WOWK!
I DON'T KNOW, YOU COULD MAKE HIM AN APPWENTISH.


YOU FOOL.
CHE-COND PLACE.
UM. I LIKE HIM A BIT.
UH
HAVE YOU GOT A CRUSH ON HIM?
HEY,

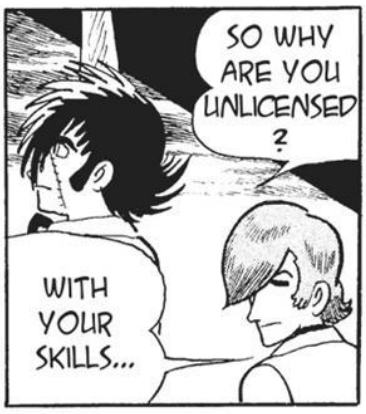
YOU MEANIE!
I WANT HIM TO SHTA~Y!

THERE'S NO WAY HE'S STAYING! GIVE IT UP!
BURIKE!
CHON
ACC

WOULD YOU PLEASE SEND THE PATIENT TO OUR EMBASSY WHEN SHE'S RECOVERED?
TOMOR-ROW.
I WISH I DIDN'T HAVE TO, BUT I HAVE A TIGHT SCHEDULE.
WHEN DO YOU DEPART?


AH, YES...

I DON'T LIKE TITLES.


SO WHY ARE YOU UNLICENSED?
WITH YOUR SKILLS...

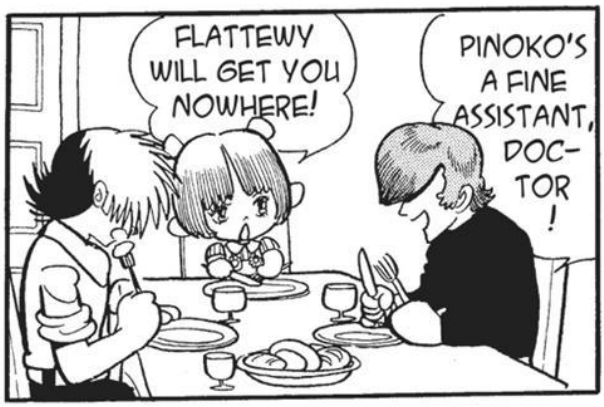
TIME TO GET DINNER WEADY!
HEY, MISHTER! WHERE ARE YOU? YOU'RE PINOKO'S ASHISHTANT!

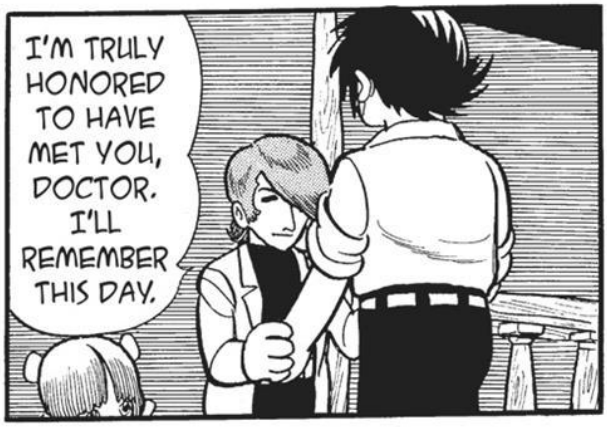
FOR ONE THING, I COULD HAVE MET YOU MUCH MORE EASILY.

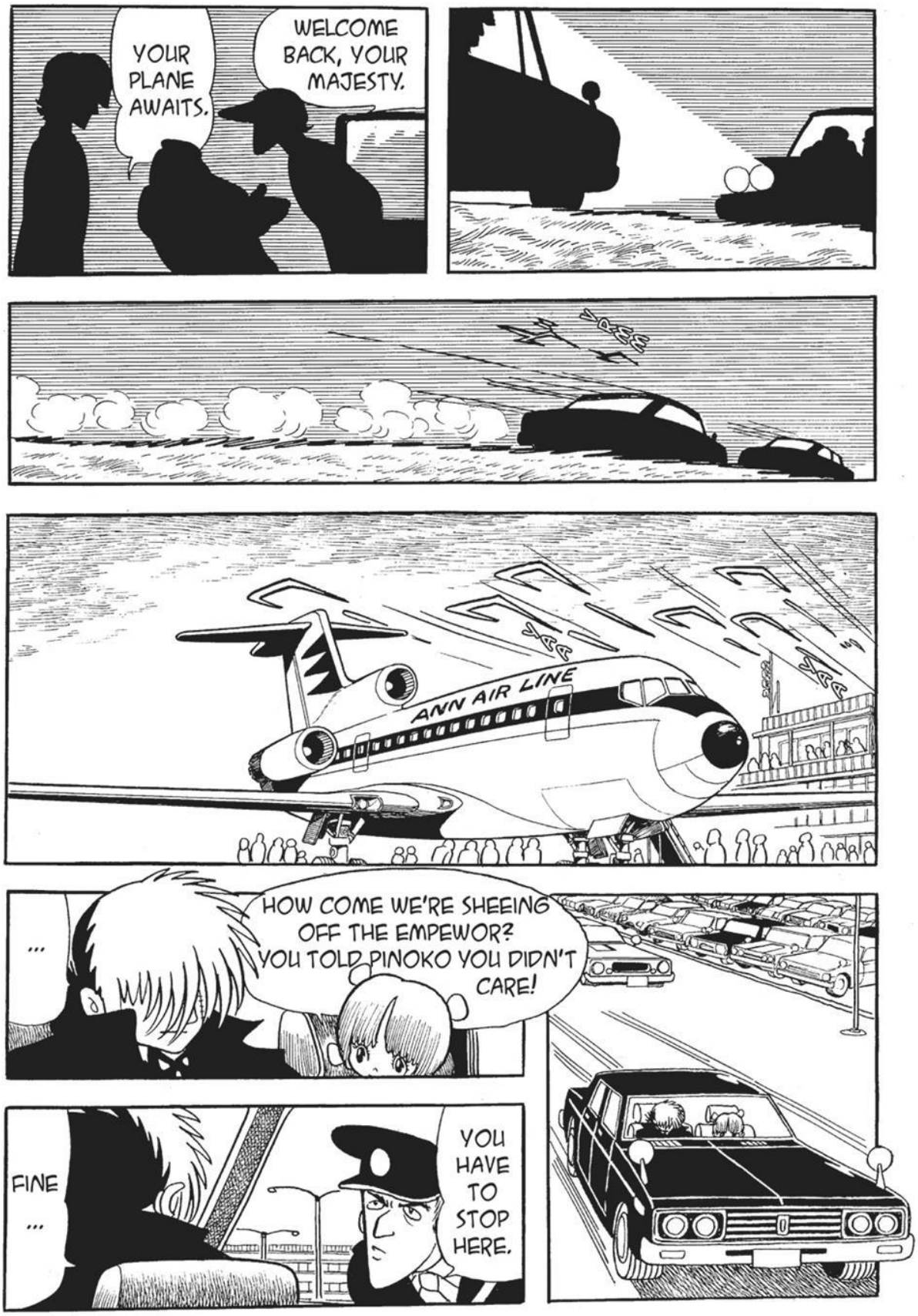
I OFTEN THINK HOW MUCH EASIER MY LIFE WOULD BE IF I DIDN'T HAVE MINE.

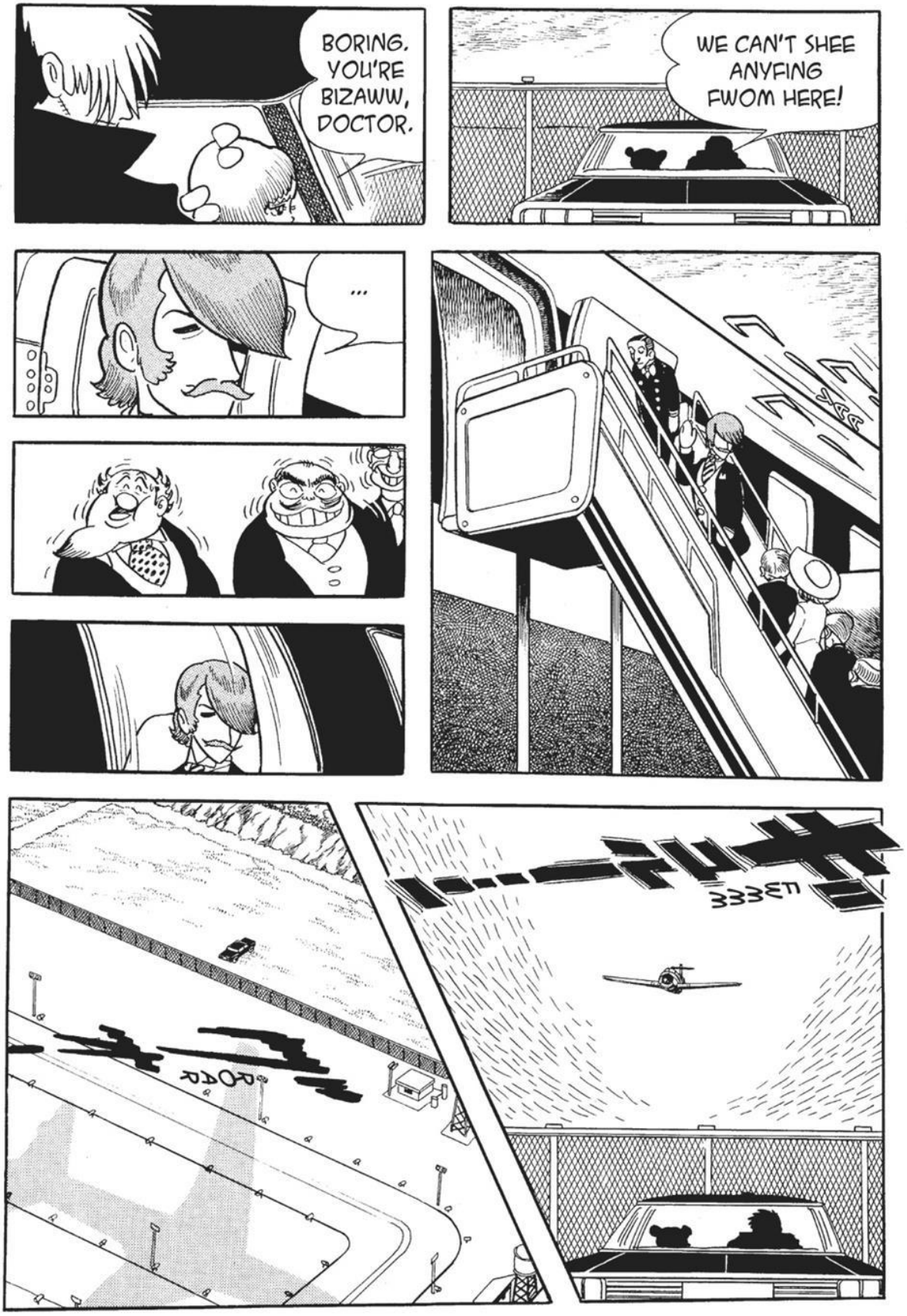
PUT OUT THE SHOY AND SHTEAK SHAUCE!
SHPWEAD THE TABLE-CLOF!

FEEL FWEE TO COME BACK AND BE MY ASHISHTANT ANY TIME!


FLATTEWY WILL GET YOU NOWHERE!
PINOKO'S A FINE ASSISTANT, DOC-TOR!

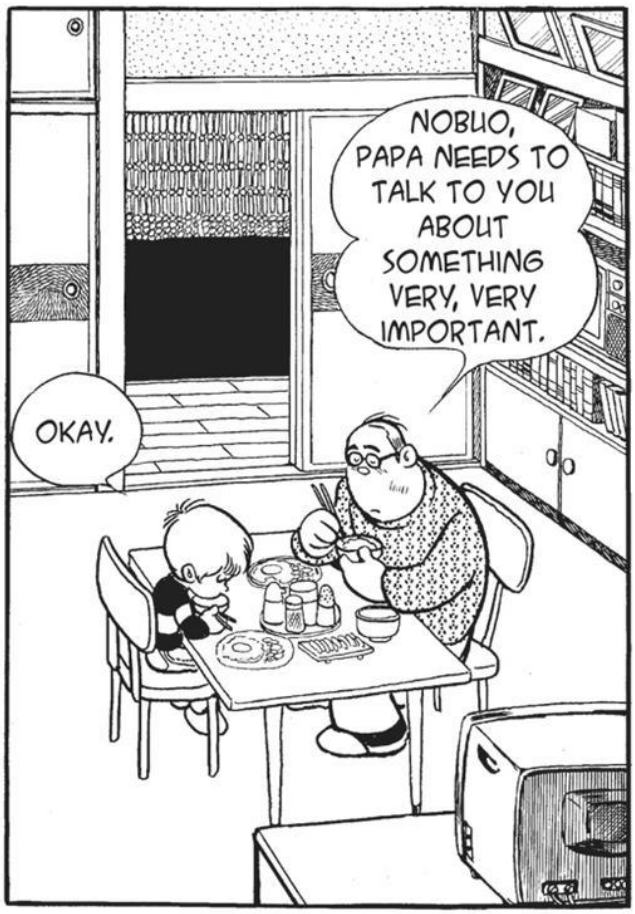

I'M TRULY HONORED TO HAVE MET YOU, DOCTOR. I'LL REMEMBER THIS DAY.


YOUR PLANE AWAITS.
WELCOME BACK, YOUR MAJESTY.
ANN AIR LINE
...
HOW COME WE'RE SHEEING OFF THE EMPEWOR? YOU TOLD PINOKO YOU DIDN'T CARE!
FINE ...
YOU HAVE TO STOP HERE.

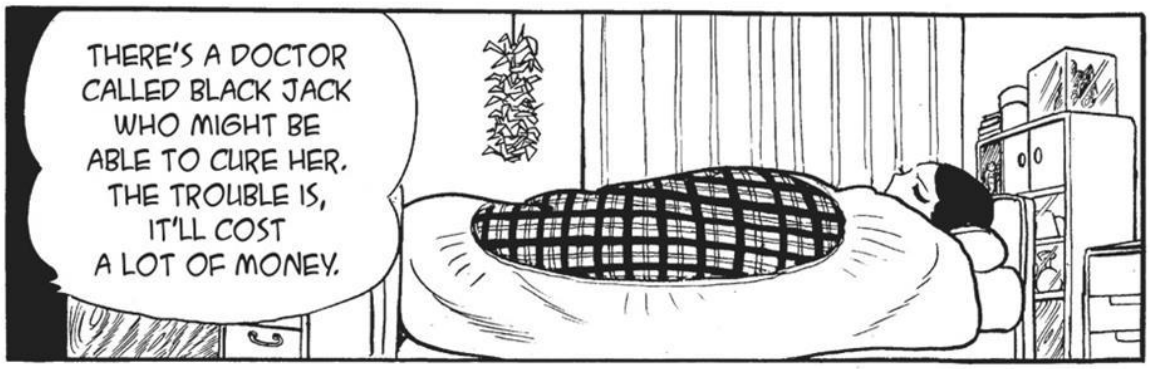

BORING. YOU'RE BIZAWW, DOCTOR.
WE CAN'T SHEE ANYFING FWOM HERE!
...

LOST AND FOUND

MAMA ISN'T GOING TO GET BETTER ?
REMEMBER HOW THE DOCTOR SAID


NOBUO, PAPA NEEDS TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT SOMETHING VERY, VERY IMPORTANT.
OKAY.

WELL, IT TURNS OUT...
YEAH.


THERE'S A DOCTOR CALLED BLACK JACK WHO MIGHT BE ABLE TO CURE HER. THE TROUBLE IS, IT'LL COST A LOT OF MONEY.

EVEN IF WE SELL THIS HOUSE, WE'RE SHORT ...

WELL ...

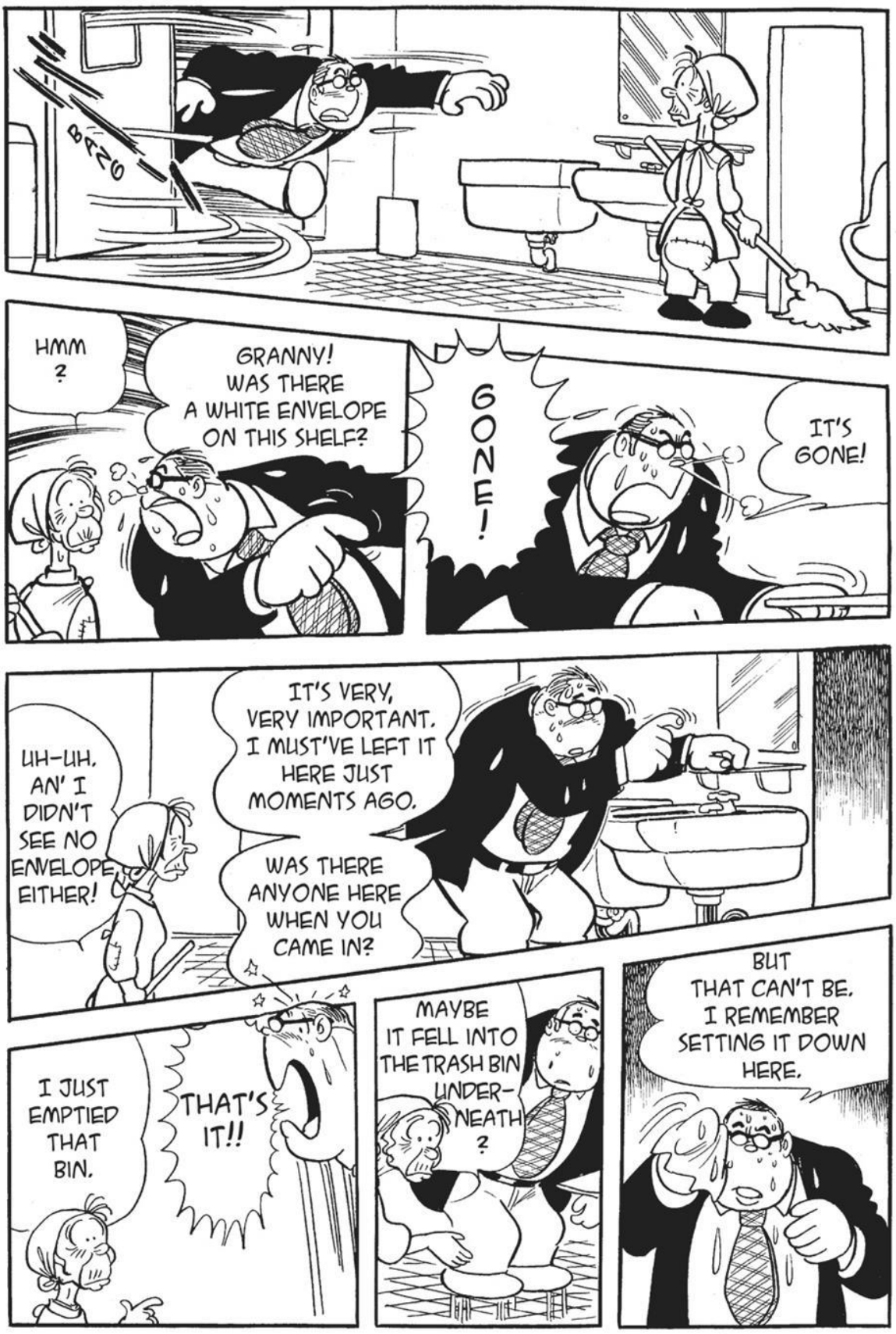
HOW MUCH ?

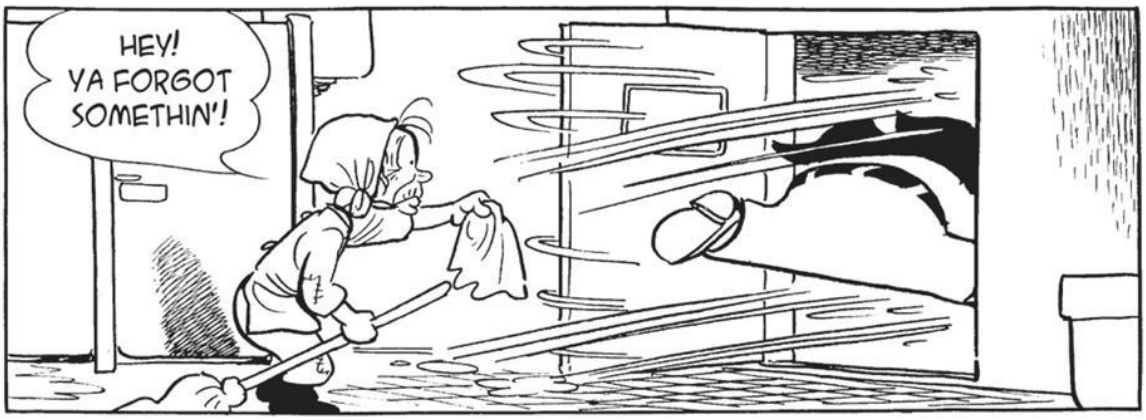
AND IF WE SELL ALL THAT, WE'LL HAVE NOTHING.
EVEN IF WE SELL EVERY LAST THING WE HAVE, THE CAMERAS, THE BOOKS, EVERYTHING, WE STILL WON'T HAVE ENOUGH.
I THOUGHT SO. PAPA FEELS THE SAME WAY.
MAMA GETTING BETTER !!
WHICH IS MORE IMPORTANT TO YOU? HAVING A HOME TO LIVE IN OR MAMA GETTING BETTER?
PAPA? ARE YOU SAD BECAUSE WE JUST BUILT THIS HOUSE?
NO. IT'S NOT AS IMPORTANT AS MAMA'S LIFE!
I'LL GET A JOB TO MAKE MONEY. I CAN DELIVER PAPERS. I'LL QUIT SCHOOL.
DON'T BE SILLY. PAPA WILL WORK LIKE CRAZY TO SAVE UP THE MONEY.

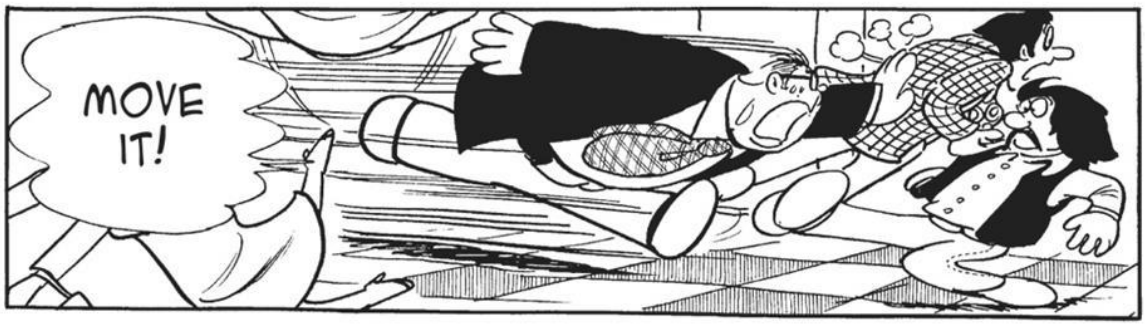
THANK YOU, PAPA!
NOBUO'S GOING TO STAY HOME WITH YOU TODAY.
I'M GOING TO GO TAKE CARE OF THE PAPERWORK.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
CAREFUL NOW! YOU KNOW HOW YOU ARE!
GET WELL SOON, MAMA!
YOU'RE ALWAYS LOSING STUFF!
THERE'S NO WAY I'D LOSE IT!
YOU MEAN UMBRELLAS AND SHOPPING BAGS. THIS IS A CHECK!

ROAR
ソーッ
SLIDE
FOR AKITA
CENTRAL EXIT
HEKIMURA BLDG
AOKI HALL
秋田方面
⇦中央口
壁村ビル・
青木会館
ザワ
ザワ
MY PASS...!

WHERE'D IT GO? I HAD IT WHEN I GOT ON...
DAMN!
I MUST'VE DROPPED IT!
WHERE IS MY PASS CASE?
WHEN I TRIED TO PUT IT AWAY ...
WAIT ...
GONE!
GUESS I'LL HAVE TO BUY A REPLACEMENT TICKET.
IT'LL COST TOO MUCH TO GET A NEW PASS.
UNBELIEVABLE! I'M SUCH A DOOFUS!
THE ENVELOPE WITH THE CHECK!!
ACK!!
精算所


BRZO
HMM ?
GRANNY! WAS THERE A WHITE ENVELOPE ON THIS SHELF?
GONE!
IT'S GONE!
UH-UH. AN' I DIDN'T SEE NO ENVELOPE EITHER!
IT'S VERY, VERY IMPORTANT. I MUST'VE LEFT IT HERE JUST MOMENTS AGO.
WAS THERE ANYONE HERE WHEN YOU CAME IN?
I JUST EMPTIED THAT BIN.
THAT'S IT!!
MAYBE IT FELL INTO THE TRASH BIN UNDER-NEATH ?
BUT THAT CAN'T BE. I REMEMBER SETTING IT DOWN HERE.


HEY! YA FORGOT SOMETHIN'!


MOVE IT!

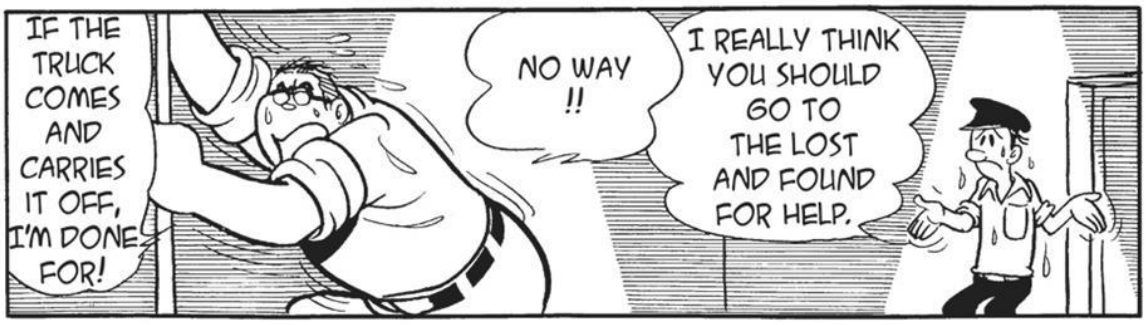
THERE'S TONS AND TONS OF IT!

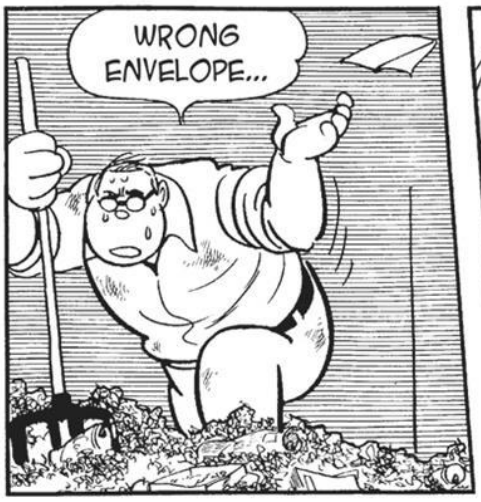
GARBAGE? WE KEEP IT IN A HOLDING ROOM 'TIL THE TRUCK COMES.

OVER THERE. BUT I'M AFRAID IT'S HOPELESS.

EVERY LAST CENT I HAVE!
IT'S A CHECK FOR 30 MILLION YEN!!
THIRTY MILLION ?!

WHY DON'T YA JUST REPORT IT TO LOST AND FOUND ?
I'LL FIND IT! I HAVE TO!

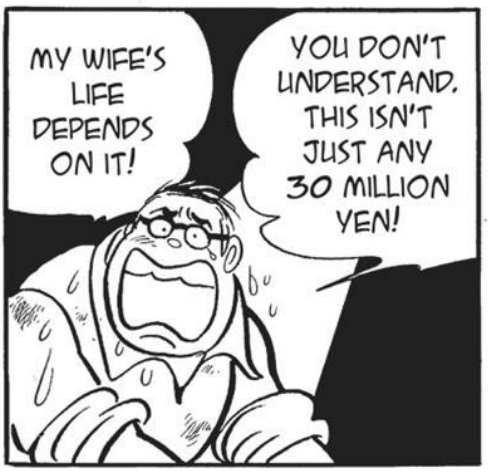

IF THE TRUCK COMES AND CARRIES IT OFF, I'M DONE FOR!
NO WAY !!
I REALLY THINK YOU SHOULD GO TO THE LOST AND FOUND FOR HELP.


WRONG ENVELOPE...

I love you, I love you, I love you, I love you! I love you, Suzuki! ♡ I love you forever!

FOUND IT!!

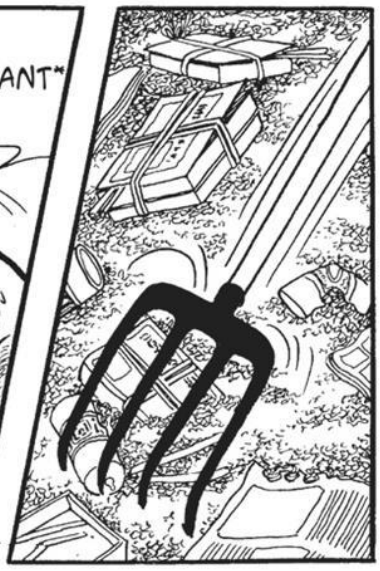
SIR? I'M THE STATION MANAGER. WHY DON'T YOU LEAVE THIS IN OUR HANDS?
PLEASE, LET ME CONTINUE SEARCHING!

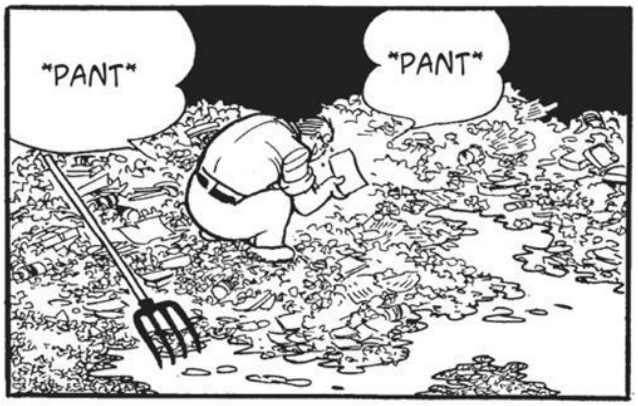

MY WIFE'S LIFE DEPENDS ON IT!
YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND. THIS ISN'T JUST ANY 30 MILLION YEN!

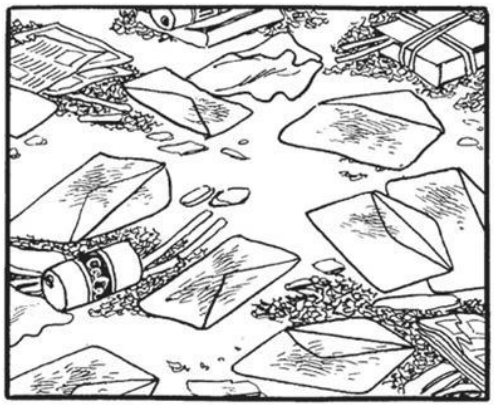
I'M SURE IT'LL POP UP ANY MINUTE NOW...
IT CAN'T BE BURIED TOO DEEP.

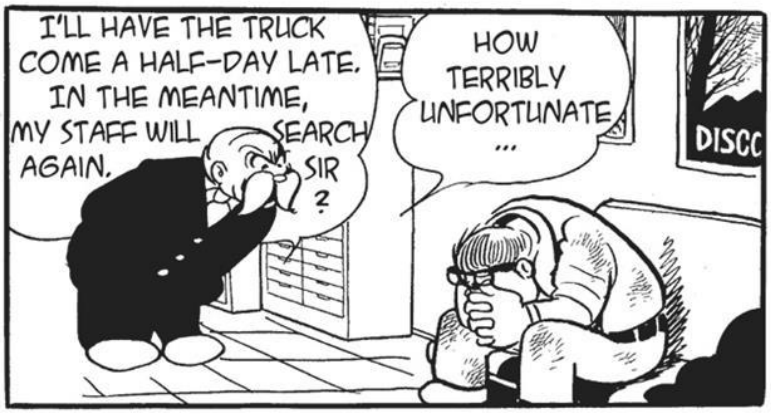
"GASP"
"PANT"

"PANT"
"PANT"



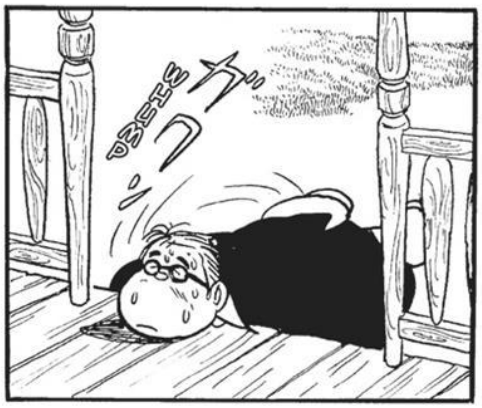

"PANT"
"PANT"




I'LL HAVE THE TRUCK COME A HALF-DAY LATE. IN THE MEANTIME, MY STAFF WILL SEARCH AGAIN.
SIR ?
HOW TERRIBLY UNFORTUNATE ...
DISCC

HOW CAN I FACE MY SON ?
DISCOB

WE'LL CONTACT YOU IF WE FIND IT.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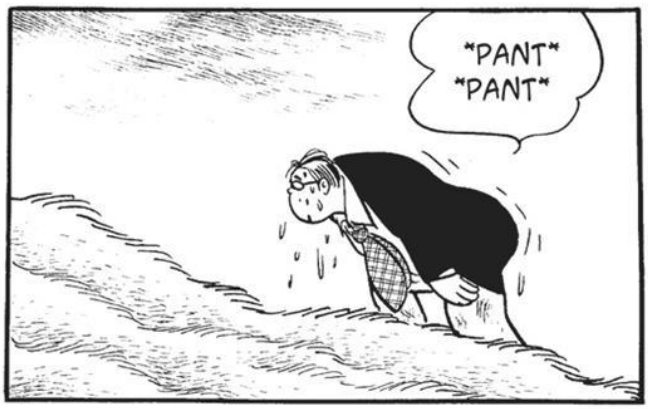
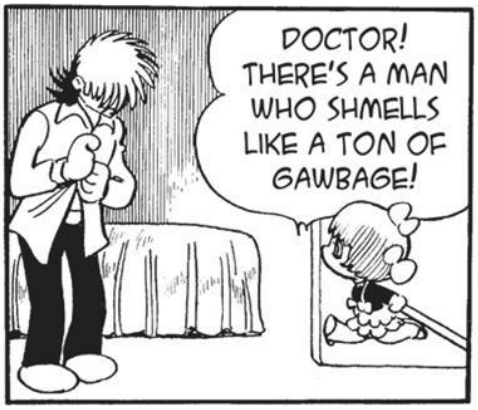
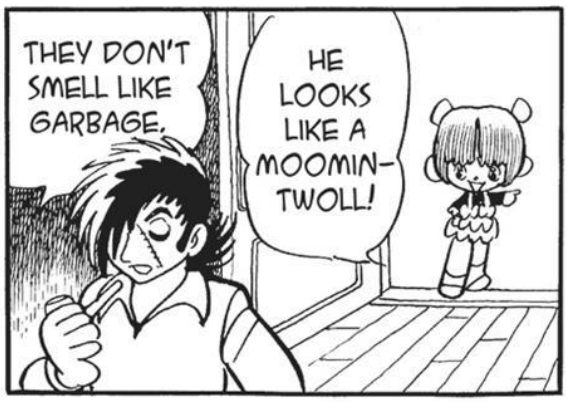

"PANT"
"PANT"

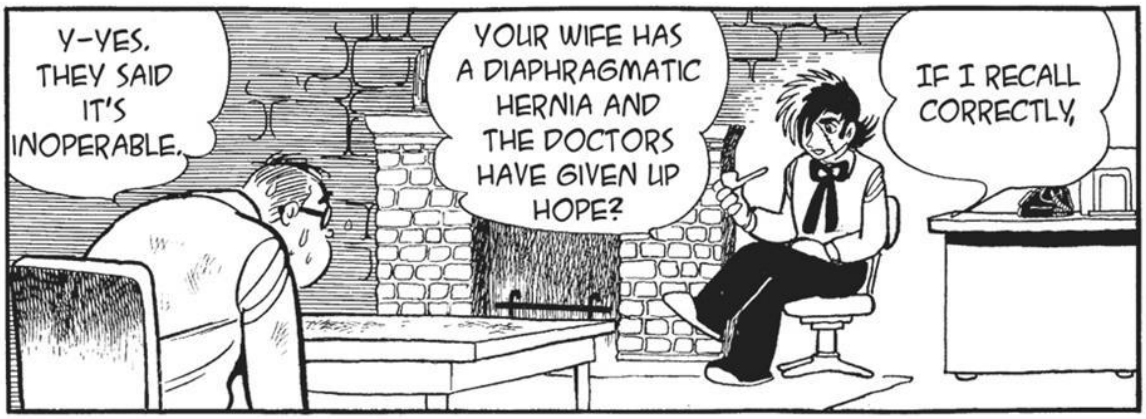

DOCTOR! THERE'S A MAN WHO SHMELLS LIKE A TON OF GAWBAGE!

YECH. SHTINKY !

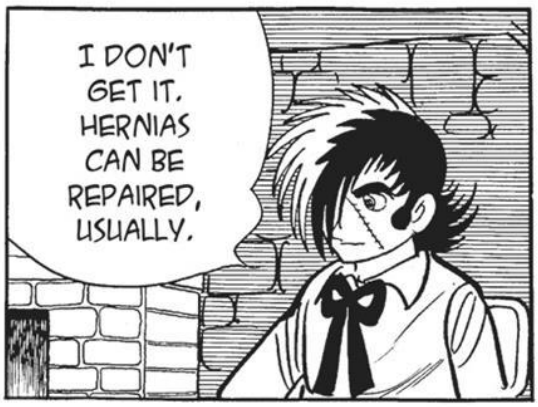
WHO'S THERE ?


THEY DON'T SMELL LIKE GARBAGE.
HE LOOKS LIKE A MOOMIN-TWOLL!

SHOW HIM TO THE SHOWER, PINOKO.
YOU LOOK TOTALLY EXHAUSTED... AND IT'S NOT EVEN NOON.


Y-YES. THEY SAID IT'S INOPERABLE.
YOUR WIFE HAS A DIAPHRAGMATIC HERNIA AND THE DOCTORS HAVE GIVEN UP HOPE?
IF I RECALL CORRECTLY,

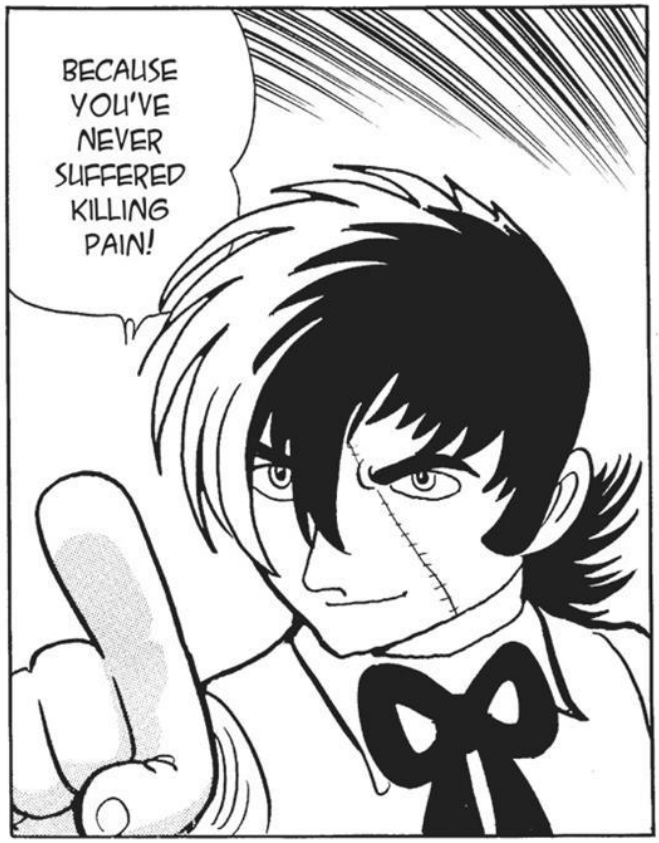
THEY SAY HER HEART IS PROTRUDING THROUGH A TEAR IN HER DIAPHRAGM AND SHE'LL DIE IF THEY ATTEMPT SURGERY.

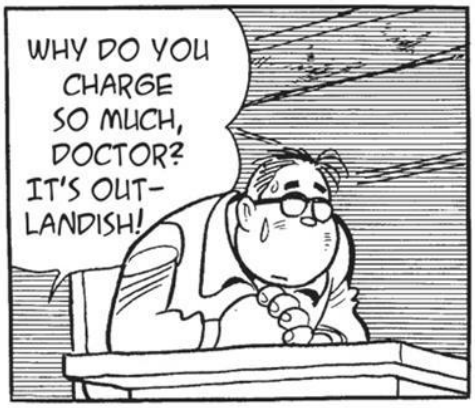

I DON'T GET IT. HERNIAS CAN BE REPAIRED, USUALLY.

THAT CAN'T HAVE BEEN EASY.
I THOUGHT YOU'D GIVE UP.

WELL, I MANAGED TO SCRAPE TOGETHER THE MONEY.

AH ...
AND THE FEE ?

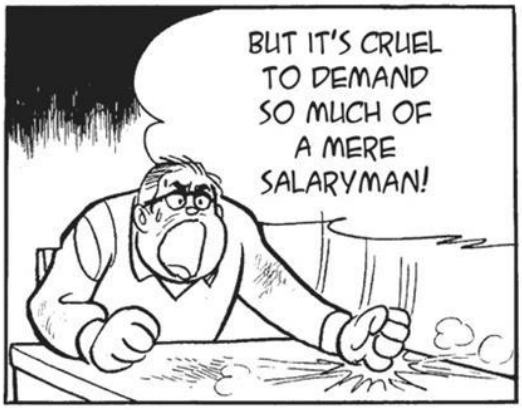

BECAUSE YOU'VE NEVER SUFFERED KILLING PAIN!

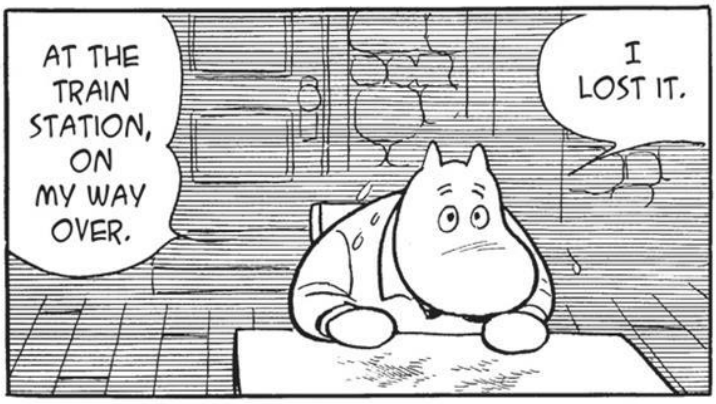

WHY DO YOU CHARGE SO MUCH, DOCTOR? IT'S OUT-LANDISH!

OUT-LANDISH ?
YOU THINK IT'S TOO MUCH

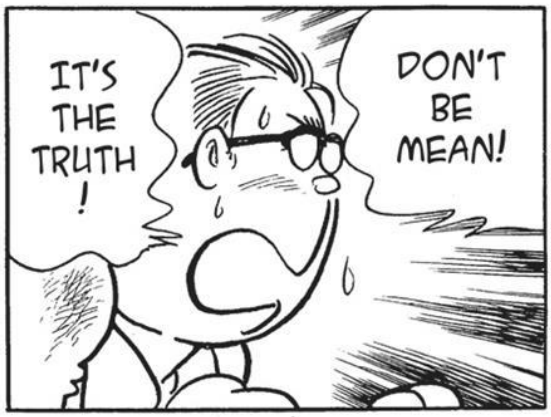
OTHERS CAN'T APPRECIATE WHAT IT REALLY MEANS TO BE CURED.
A PERSON IN THAT STATE IS WILLING TO GIVE UP EVERYTHING IN EXCHANGE FOR LIFE.

IF YOU THINK IT CRUEL, DON'T SEEK MY SERVICES ...

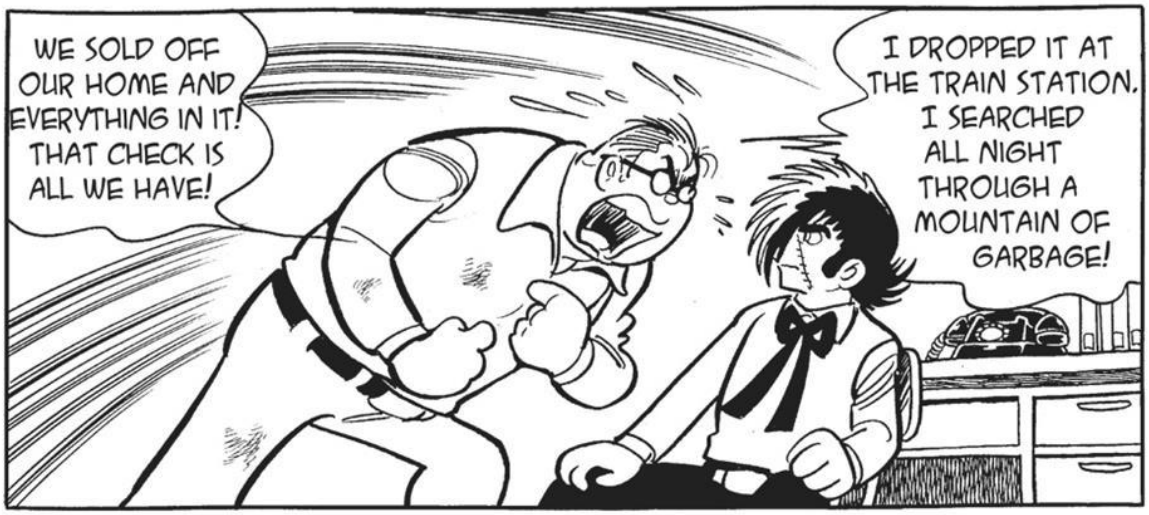

BUT IT'S CRUEL TO DEMAND SO MUCH OF A MERE SALARYMAN!


AT THE TRAIN STATION, ON MY WAY OVER.
I LOST IT.

SHOW ME YOUR MONEY!

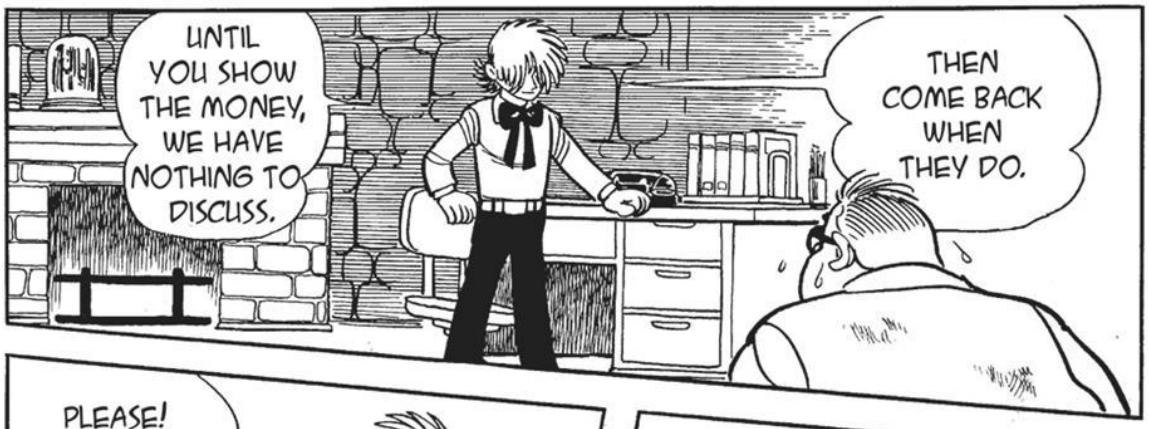

IT'S THE TRUTH !
DON'T BE MEAN!

THAT'S YOUR EXCUSE ?!
DON'T BE CUTE!

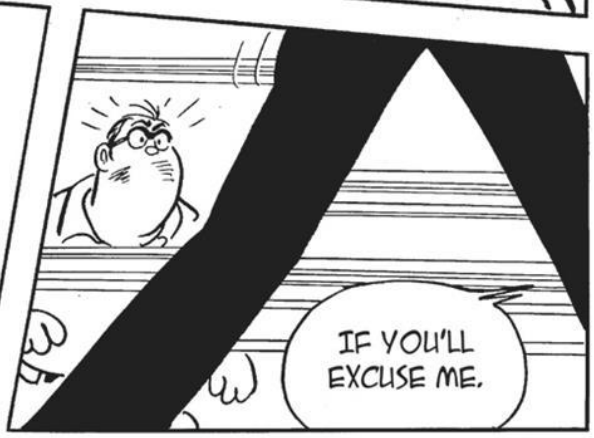

WE SOLD OFF OUR HOME AND EVERYTHING IN IT! THAT CHECK IS ALL WE HAVE!
I DROPPED IT AT THE TRAIN STATION. I SEARCHED ALL NIGHT THROUGH A MOUNTAIN OF GARBAGE!

WILL FIND IT SOON !
THE STATION STAFF

HAS IT BEEN FOUND? WITHOUT IT, MY HANDS ARE TIED.

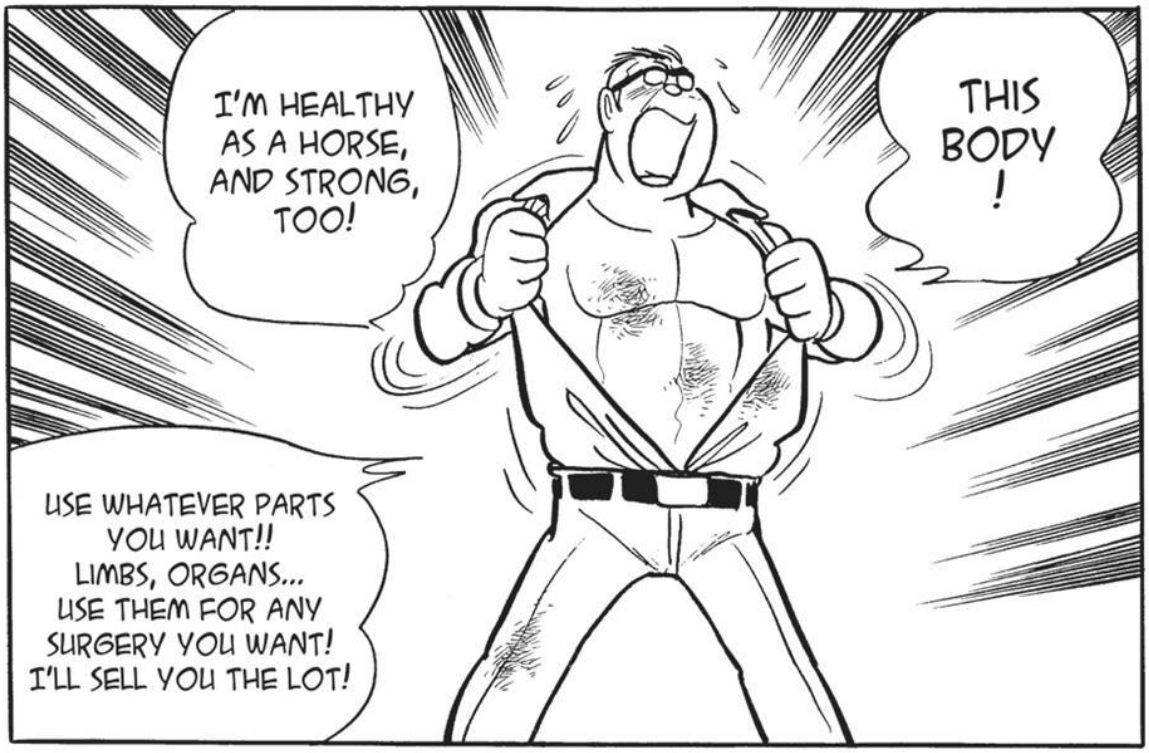

UNTIL YOU SHOW THE MONEY, WE HAVE NOTHING TO DISCUSS.
THEN COME BACK WHEN THEY DO.

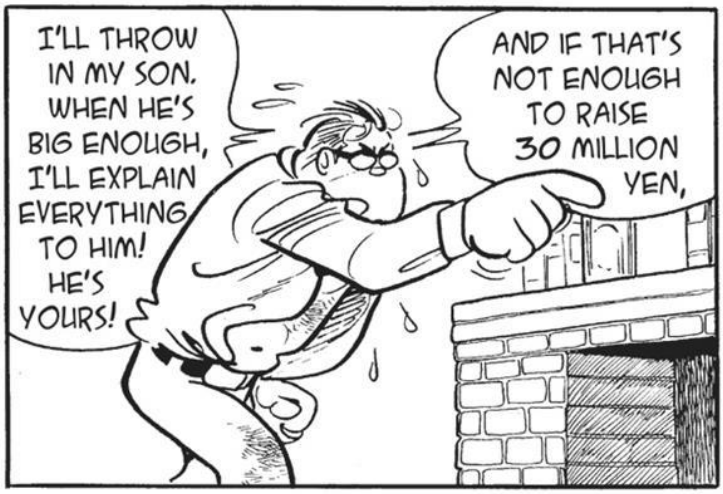
PLEASE! WE NEED TO HURRY! SHE'S AT DEATH'S DOOR!


IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME.

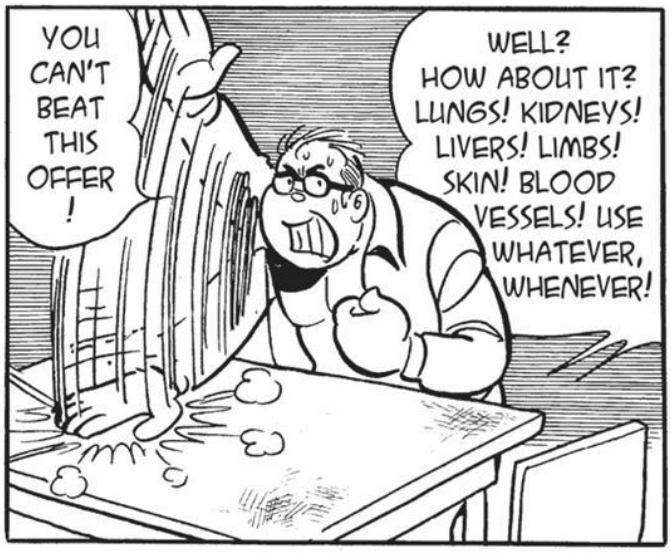
THERE IS!
YES !!

IS THERE SOME OTHER WAY YOU CAN PAY?


I'M HEALTHY AS A HORSE, AND STRONG, TOO!
THIS BODY !
USE WHATEVER PARTS YOU WANT!! LIMBS, ORGANS... USE THEM FOR ANY SURGERY YOU WANT! I'LL SELL YOU THE LOT!

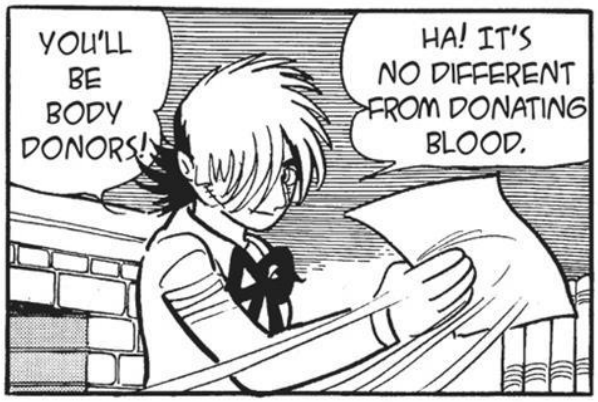

I'LL THROW IN MY SON. WHEN HE'S BIG ENOUGH, I'LL EXPLAIN EVERYTHING TO HIM! HE'S YOURS!
AND IF THAT'S NOT ENOUGH TO RAISE 30 MILLION YEN,

FINE.
...

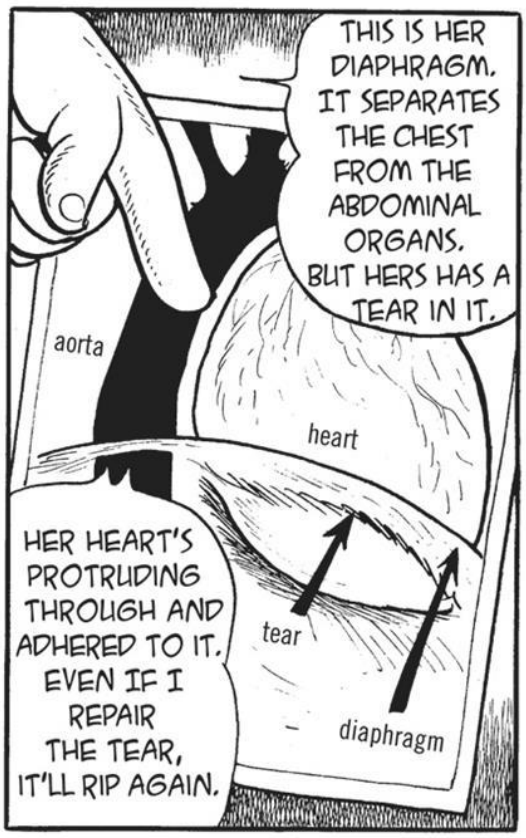

YOU CAN'T BEAT THIS OFFER!
WELL? HOW ABOUT IT? LUNGS! KIDNEYS! LIVERS! LIMBS! SKIN! BLOOD VESSELS! USE WHATEVER, WHENEVER!

I'LL BUY YOUR BODY AND YOUR SON'S.
IT'S A DEAL!

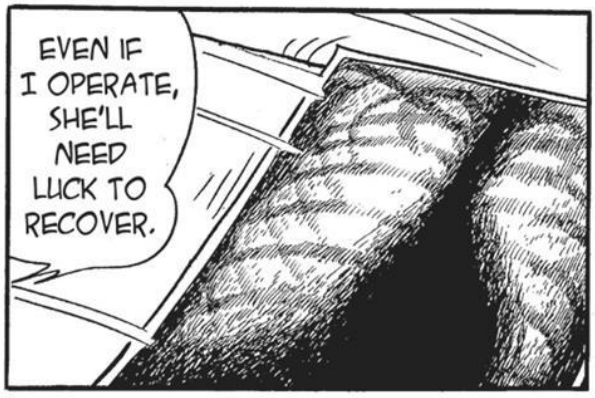
I HOPE THIS DOESN'T QUALIFY AS HUMAN TRAFFICKING ...

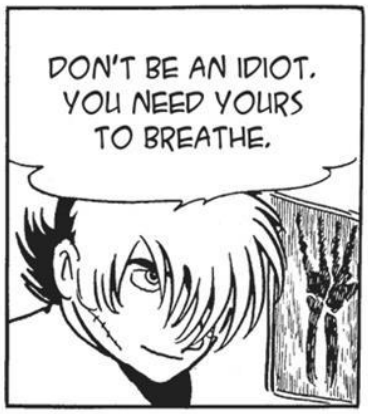

YOU'LL BE BODY DONORS!
HA! IT'S NO DIFFERENT FROM DONATING BLOOD.

SIGN THIS DOCUMENT. IT'S A PROMISSORY NOTE GUARANTEE-ING
THAT YOUR BODIES WILL BE AVAILABLE WHENEVER I NEED THEM.


THIS IS HER DIAPHRAGM. IT SEPARATES THE CHEST FROM THE ABDOMINAL ORGANS. BUT HERS HAS A TEAR IN IT.
aorta
heart
HER HEART'S PROTRUDING THROUGH AND ADHERED TO IT. EVEN IF I REPAIR THE TEAR, IT'LL RIP AGAIN.
tear
diaphragm

THIS IS PRETTY TOUGH ...
WELL?


EVEN IF I OPERATE, SHE'LL NEED LUCK TO RECOVER.

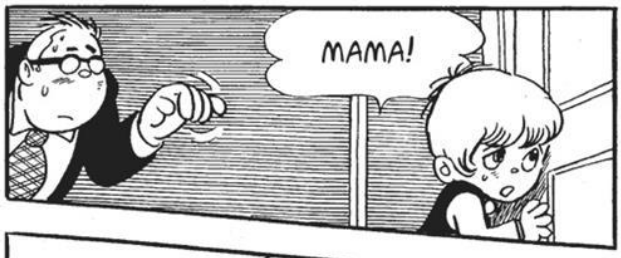

DON'T BE AN IDIOT. YOU NEED YOURS TO BREATHE.

THEN GIVE HER MINE! PLEASE!

SO IT'S INCUR-ABLE?
YOUR WIFE WAS BORN WITH A WEAK DIAPHRAGM.

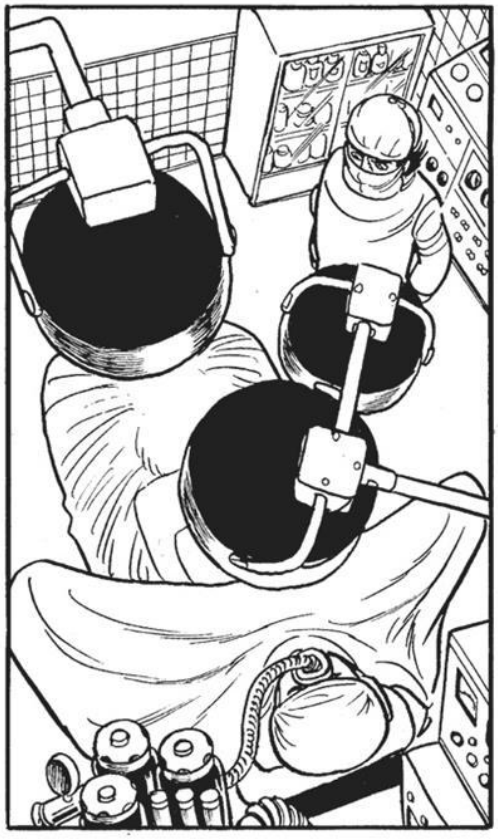
WISH MAMA LUCK! TELL HER TO BE STRONG!

I'D SAY SHE HAS ONE CHANCE IN 8.


MAMA!

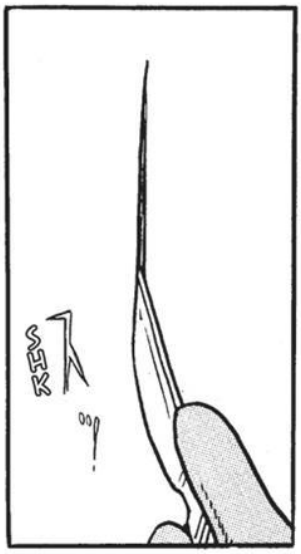
WE DON'T KNOW, NOBUO.
PAPA! IS MAMA GOING TO BE OKAY?

BUT WE SOLD THE HOUSE! WE PAID THE MONEY, SO SHE CAN'T DIE, RIGHT?



...

ザーザザザ!!
ザーザザザ!!

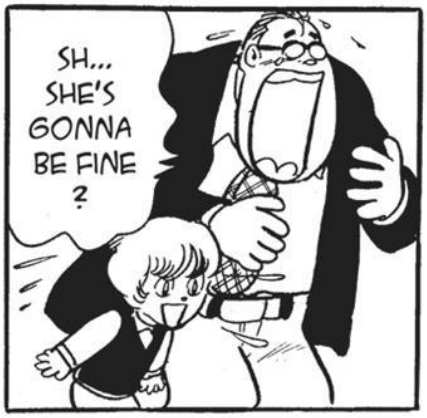

KHSS
!

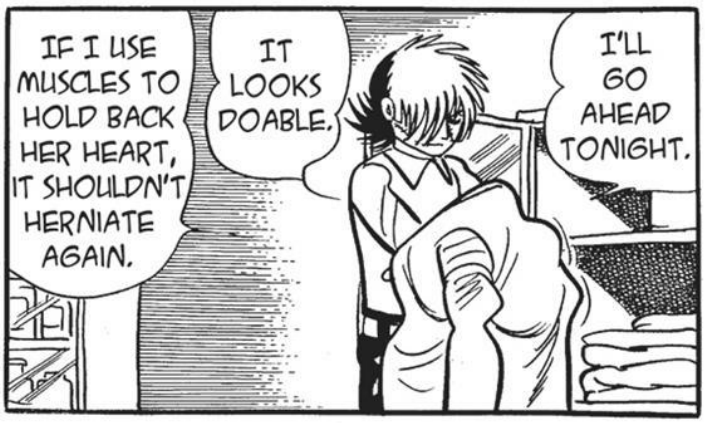
HMM ...

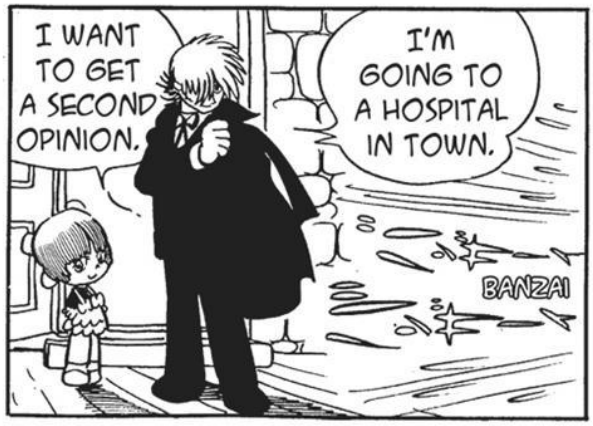
I ONLY OPENED HER UP TO HAVE A LOOK.
CALM DOWN.
AND ?

DID YOU STOP ?
WHAT'S WRONG ?
DID YOU FAIL ?

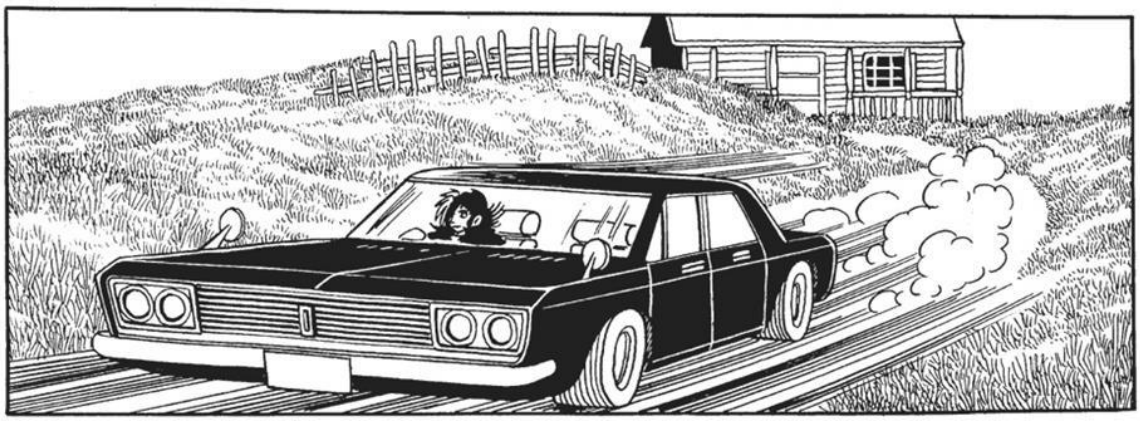
THERE HE IS!

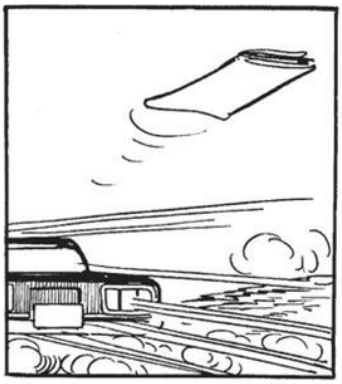

SH... SHE'S GONNA BE FINE ?


IF I USE MUSCLES TO HOLD BACK HER HEART, IT SHOULDN'T HERNIATE AGAIN.
IT LOOKS DOABLE.
I'LL GO AHEAD TONIGHT.


I WANT TO GET A SECOND OPINION.
I'M GOING TO A HOSPITAL IN TOWN.
BANZAI

YIPPEE!!
MAMA BANZAI!





YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHERE YOU DROPPED IT?
I'LL HAVE TO WORK FOR FREE!
LOST AN FOUND

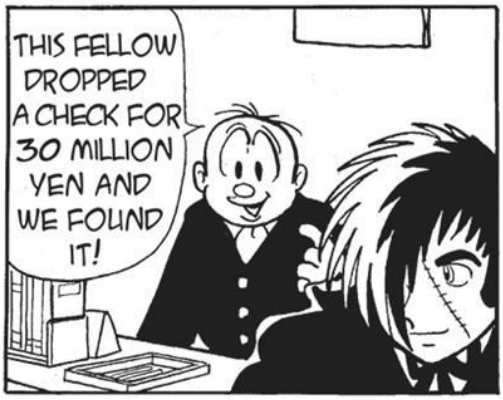
A CONTRACT! IF I DON'T FIND IT,
おとしもの わすれもの
I'VE LOST A VERY IMPORTANT DOCUMENT!

YOU KNOW, I HAVE A BAD HABIT OF LOSING STUFF.
GEEZ, THIS IS REALLY TERRIBLE!

I DON'T KNOW IF IT'LL TURN UP, BUT FILL THIS OUT JUST IN CASE.

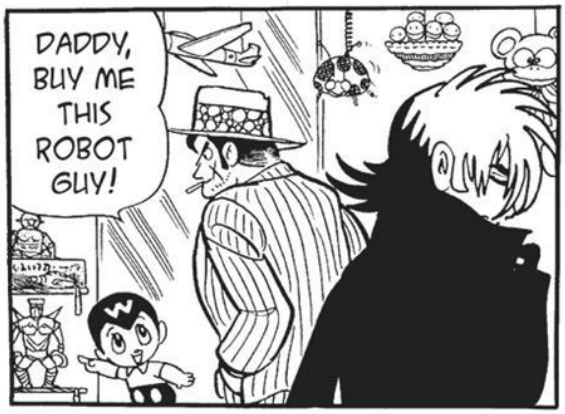
I CALLED BUT HE WASN'T IN. I'LL TRY AGAIN LATER.
HEY, HAVE YOU CONTACTED THAT MAN ABOUT HIS CHECK?

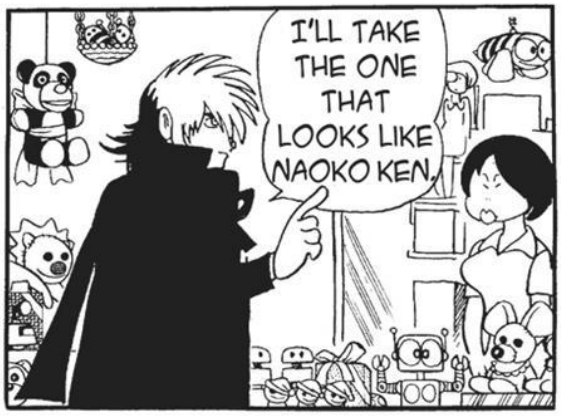
I SURE ENVY THE LUCKY FELLOW.
おわすれもの
おとしもの 取扱

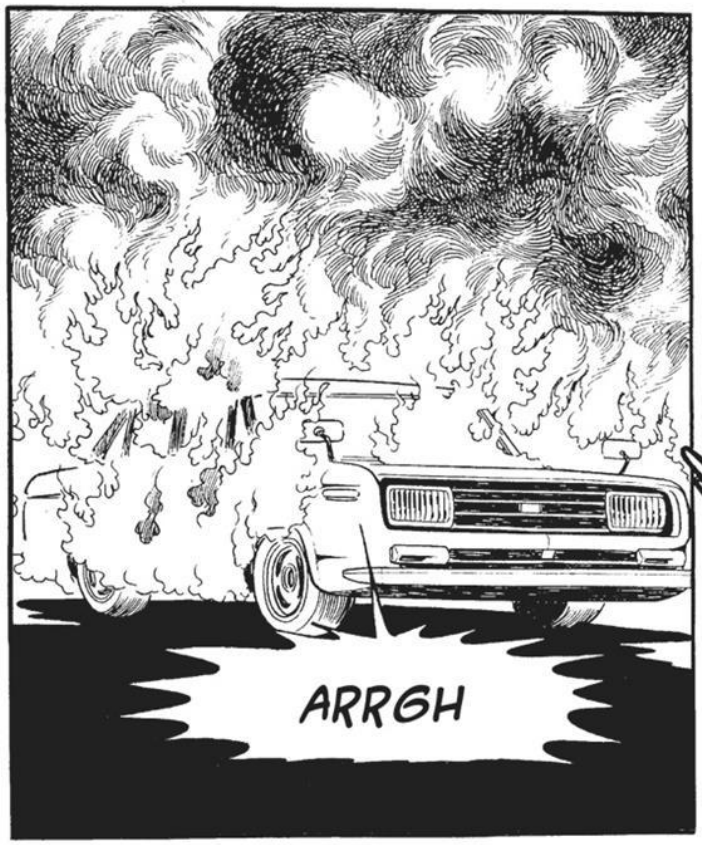

THIS FELLOW DROPPED A CHECK FOR 30 MILLION YEN AND WE FOUND IT!

THAT SORT OF THING'S RARE, SO DON'T GET YOUR HOPES UP!

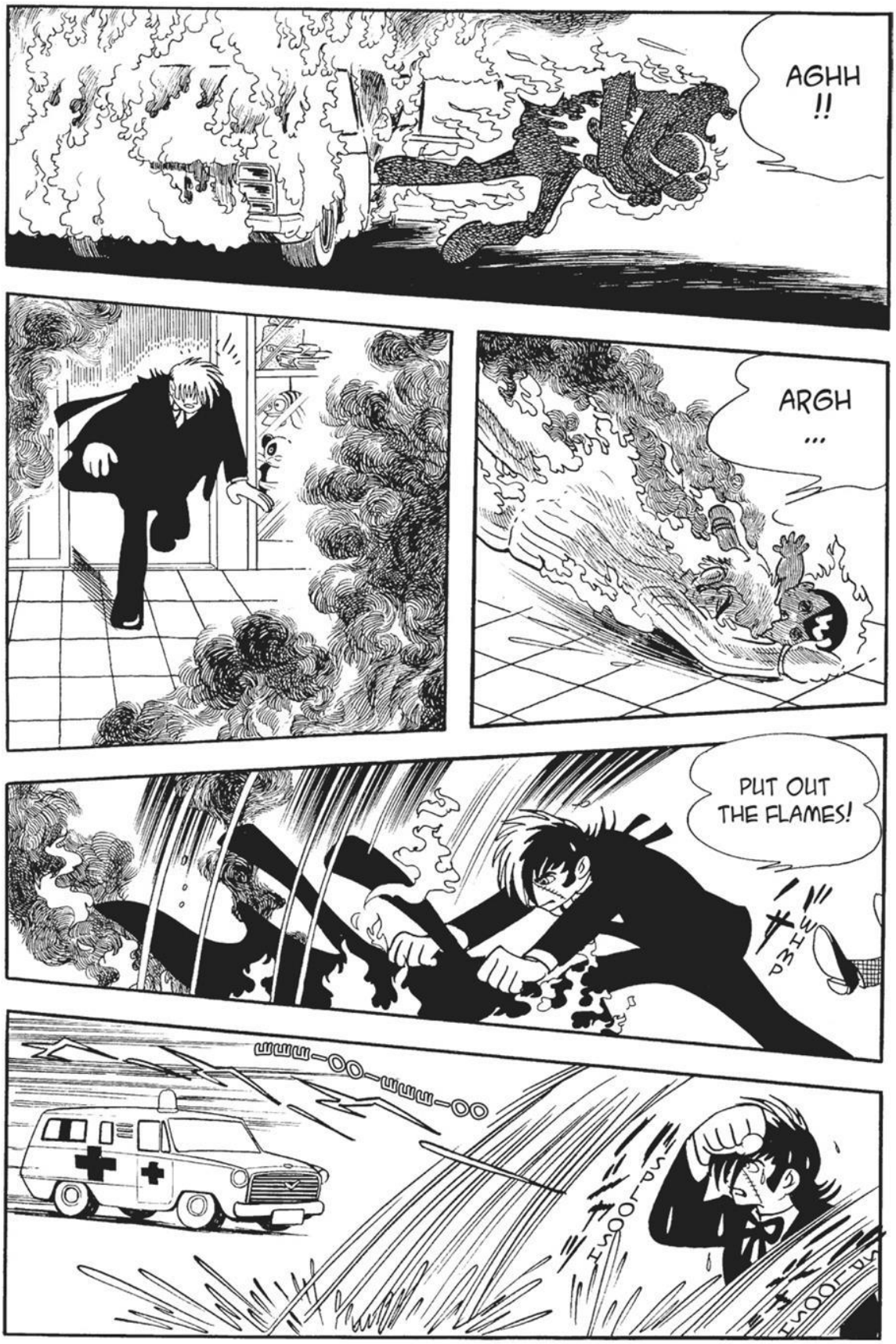
BURNED DOLL





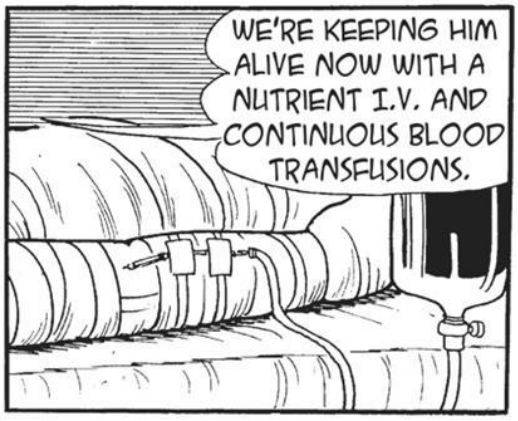


NOTE: NAOKO KEN = SINGER AND ACTRESS KNOWN FOR HER DISTINCTIVE FEATURES AND COMEDY ROLES


AGHH !!
ARGH ...
PUT OUT THE FLAMES!
HEA
WWW-OO-WWW-OO
MA-OOM
MA-OOM

THE CHILD HAS 3RD DEGREE BURNS ON 60% OF HIS BODY.
60%! THAT'S NEARLY TWO THIRDS!
WITH EVEN A THIRD BURNED, THE RESULT'S INSUFFICIENT SKIN RESPIRATION AND DEATH.
AT 60%, THERE'S NO POINT IN EVEN OPERATING.
THE FATHER'S INJURIES AREN'T SERIOUS, HE SHOULD BE FINE. BUT THE CHILD'S BADLY HURT. I DON'T THINK HE'LL MAKE IT.
POOR THING. ALL BECAUSE HIS DAD'S A GANGSTER!
GANG LEADER BADLY WOUNDED
組組長重傷
GANG WARS CONTINUE IN BROAD DAYLIGHT
白昼また暴力団の内ゲバ
CAR BOMBING! YOUNG SON SEVERELY BURNED
乗用車に爆発物!! 同伴の息子も焼

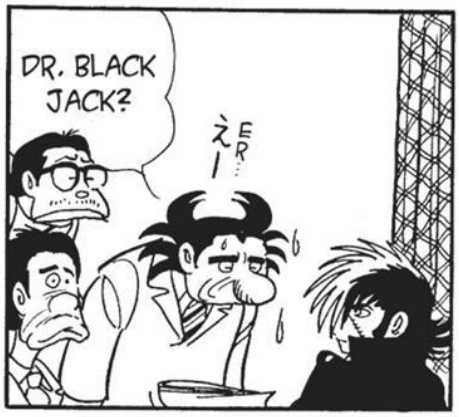
GUESS IT'S UP TO FATE NOW.
HOPE-LESS.
OUR DIRECTOR'S KINDA SPINELESS...

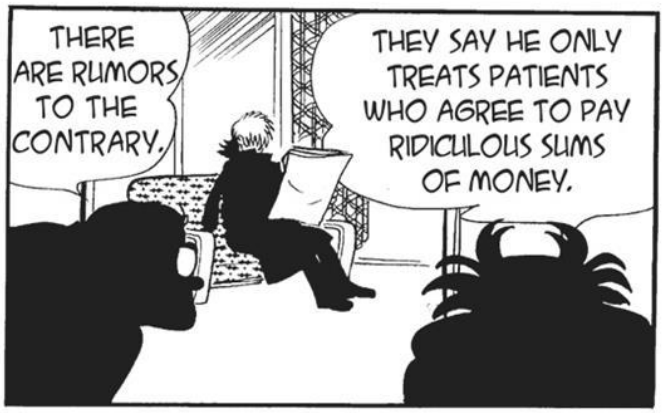

WE'RE KEEPING HIM ALIVE NOW WITH A NUTRIENT I.V. AND CONTINUOUS BLOOD TRANSFUSIONS.

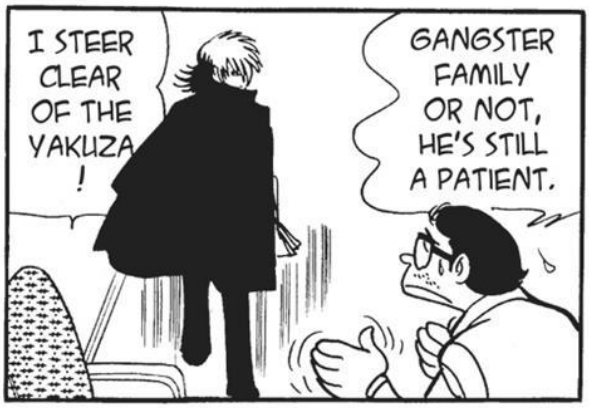
NO, NO. HE HAS NO LICENSE!

OVER THERE. DOCTOR BLACK JACK ...

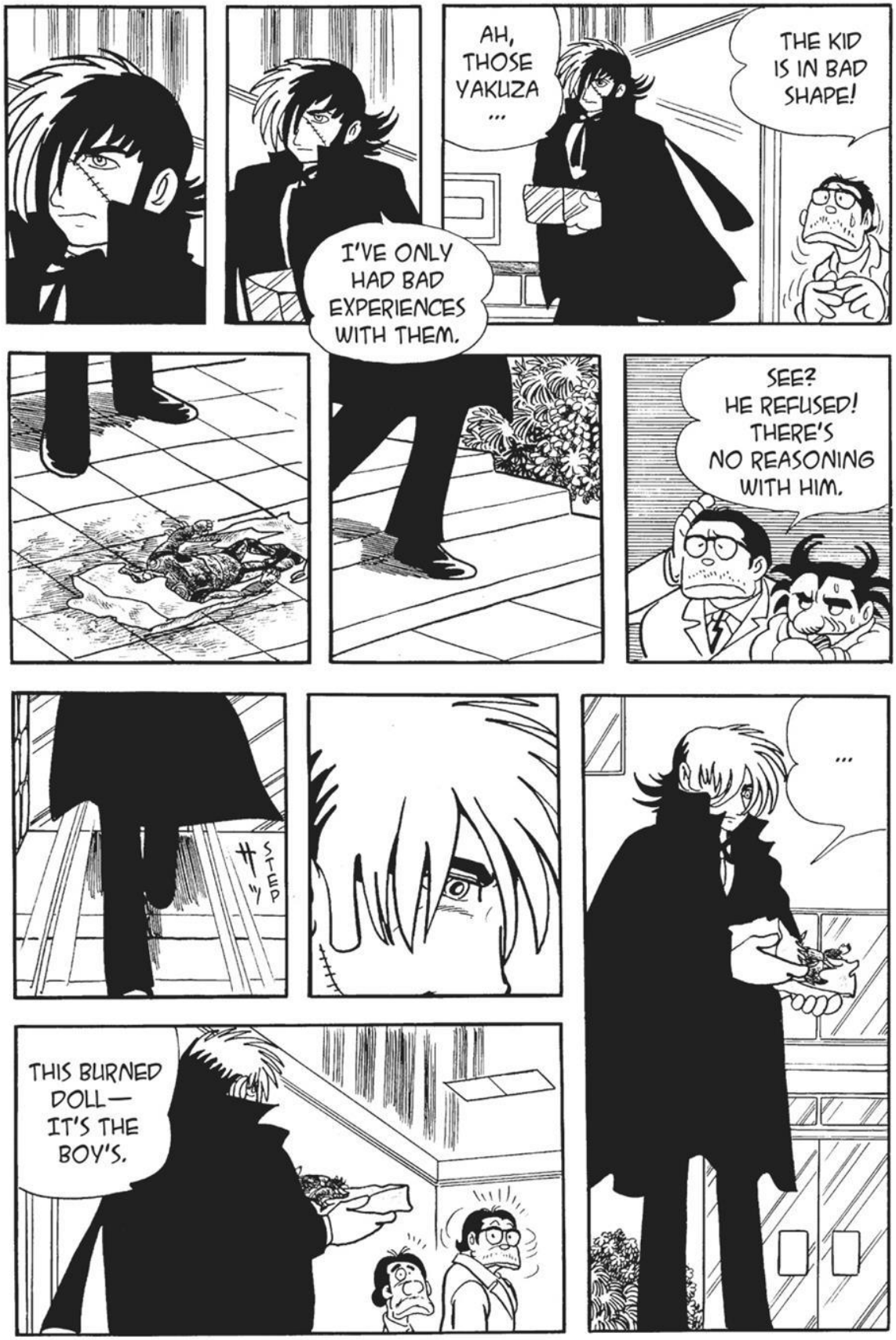
THERE'S A MAN WHO'S A SURGICAL GENIUS.
WE'RE IN LUCK, SIR.


DR. BLACK JACK?
えー ER


THERE ARE RUMORS TO THE CONTRARY.
THEY SAY HE ONLY TREATS PATIENTS WHO AGREE TO PAY RIDICULOUS SUMS OF MONEY.


I STEER CLEAR OF THE YAKUZA!
GANGSTER FAMILY OR NOT, HE'S STILL A PATIENT.

FORGET IT.
ブイ TURN
I HAVEN'T ASKED YET ...


AH, THOSE YAKUZA ...
THE KID IS IN BAD SHAPE!
I'VE ONLY HAD BAD EXPERIENCES WITH THEM.
SEE? HE REFUSED! THERE'S NO REASONING WITH HIM.
STEP
...
THIS BURNED DOLL— IT'S THE BOY'S.

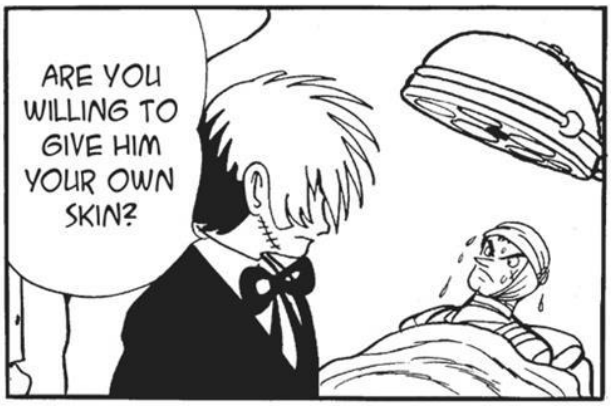
JUST A QUICK LOOK, DOCTOR.

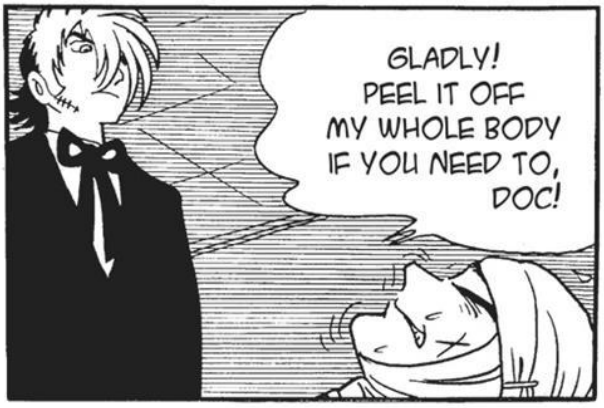
DOCTOR, PLEASE... SAVE HIM!
"UGH"

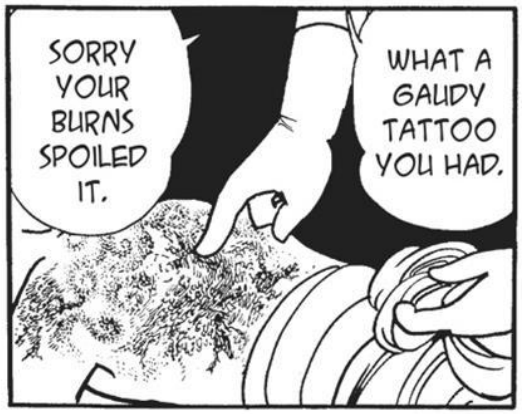
ONE IN TEN.

WILL MY BOY MAKE IT?
DOC-TOR?

EVEN IF I DO, HE MIGHT NOT MAKE IT. AND REMOVING YOUR SKIN MIGHT EARN YOU AN INFECTION.
DO YOU STILL WANT TO DO IT?
HE'S GONNA DO IT! WE'RE IN BUSINESS!


ARE YOU WILLING TO GIVE HIM YOUR OWN SKIN?

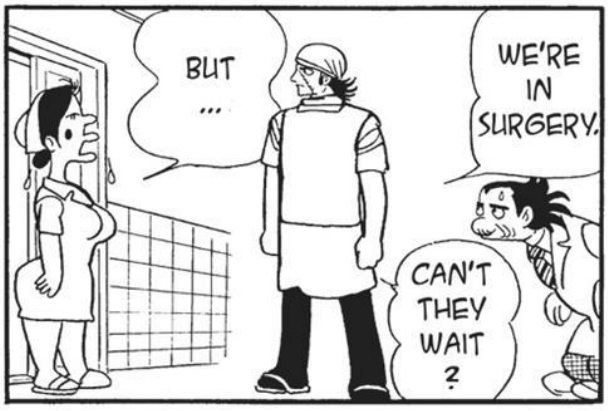

GLADLY! PEEL IT OFF MY WHOLE BODY IF YOU NEED TO, DOC!

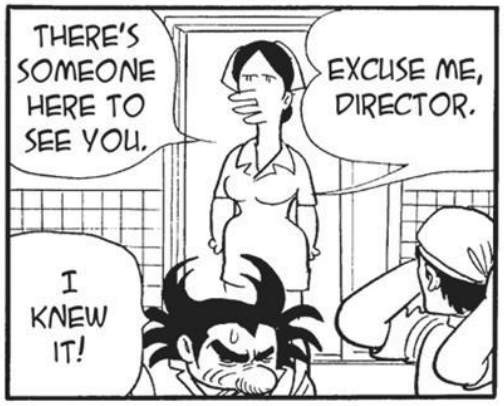

SORRY YOUR BURNS SPOILED IT.
WHAT A GAUDY TATTOO YOU HAD.

TRUE.
DOCTOR... JUST AS YOU SAID, THAT MAN'S A GANGSTER. IF WE TREAT THEM, WE'RE BOUND TO HEAR FROM HIS RIVALS.

YOU THINK I'M ONE COWARD OF A DIRECTOR, DON'T YOU?

TRY TO UNDERSTAND. WE'RE A SMALL HOSPITAL. IF THEY COME LOOKING FOR TROUBLE ...
NOBODY LIKES DEALING WITH THE YAKUZA.


BUT ...
WE'RE IN SURGERY.
CAN'T THEY WAIT ?


THERE'S SOMEONE HERE TO SEE YOU.
EXCUSE ME, DIRECTOR.
I KNEW IT!

HAND THAT PATIENT OVER.
I HEAR YOU CAME WALTZING IN. DON'T STICK YOUR NOSE WHERE IT DON'T BELONG.

SO, YOU'RE DR. BLACK JACK, EH?

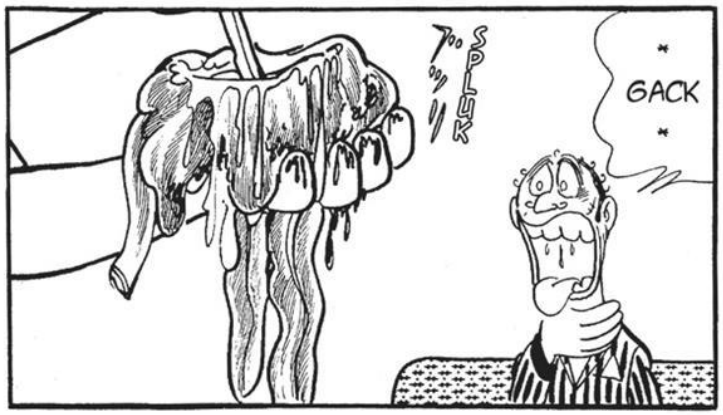
HE USED TO BE A TENPO, BUT THE TRAITOR WENT 'N SECRETLY ORGANIZED THE SORYU!
THE BOSS OF THE SORYU GANG. WE HAVE UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

WHICH ONE?

FOR YOUR OWN SAKE, EH?
JUST HAND HIM OVER, NICE AND QUICK.
THINK WHAT YOU LIKE...

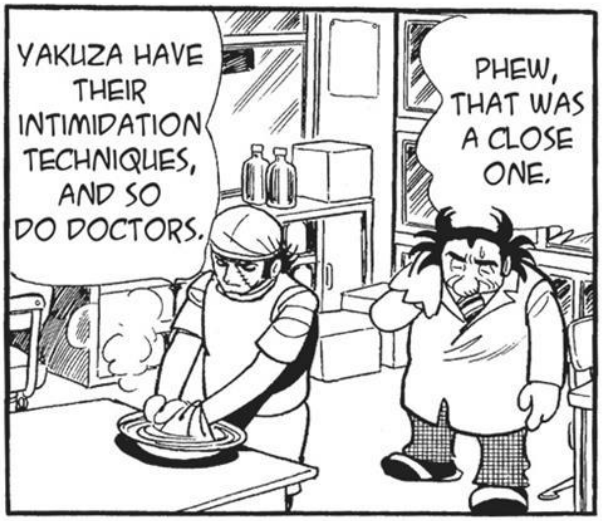
SO YOU BLEW UP HIS CAR.

NOW GET LOST. AND DON'T COME BACK.
WHAT THE HELL ...
AS HIS DOCTOR, I CAN'T LET YOU INTER-FERE.
AN OP'S UNDER-WAY.
WOULDN'T WANT YOU TO END UP A PATIENT, TOO, WOULD WE NOW?
...
THEN I CAN'T GUARANTEE YOUR SAFETY.
SO YOU LIKE BLOOD AND GUTS ?
HAVE I GOT A TREAT FOR YOU !
WHAT ON EARTH'S THAT?!


SPLUSH
GACK

THE GUTS OF A DYSENTERY PATIENT...

GOOD THING WE HAD SOME ORGANS FROM A DISSECTED ANIMAL ON HAND, HEHEH.


YAKUZA HAVE THEIR INTIMIDATION TECHNIQUES, AND SO DO DOCTORS.
PHEW, THAT WAS A CLOSE ONE.

KEEP QUIET !
I'M SORRY, DOC.

WHO WANTS A WHIFF? HA HA...
GAG !
NO!
STAY AWAY!
YECH !

EVEN IF THE SKIN GRAFT SUCCEEDS, HE'LL NEED AN IRON WILL TO MAKE IT.
I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THIS...
HE'S LOSING A LOT OF FLUID. HE'LL GET INFECTED.
ODDS ARE 100 TO 1 AGAINST, IF YOU ASK ME.
HE'LL SUFFER PAIN AND HARDSHIP FOR THE REST OF HIS LIFE.
DON'T YOU THINK...
IT'S NO USE. EVEN IF HE SURVIVES, HE WON'T HAVE FULL USE OF HIS LIMBS.

SOME KIDS MANAGE TO OVERCOME PAIN AND HARDSHIP !
SHUT UP, WILL YOU?
I'M ONE OF THEM!
IF YOU HAVE SO LITTLE FAITH, SHUT IT AND JUST WATCH!

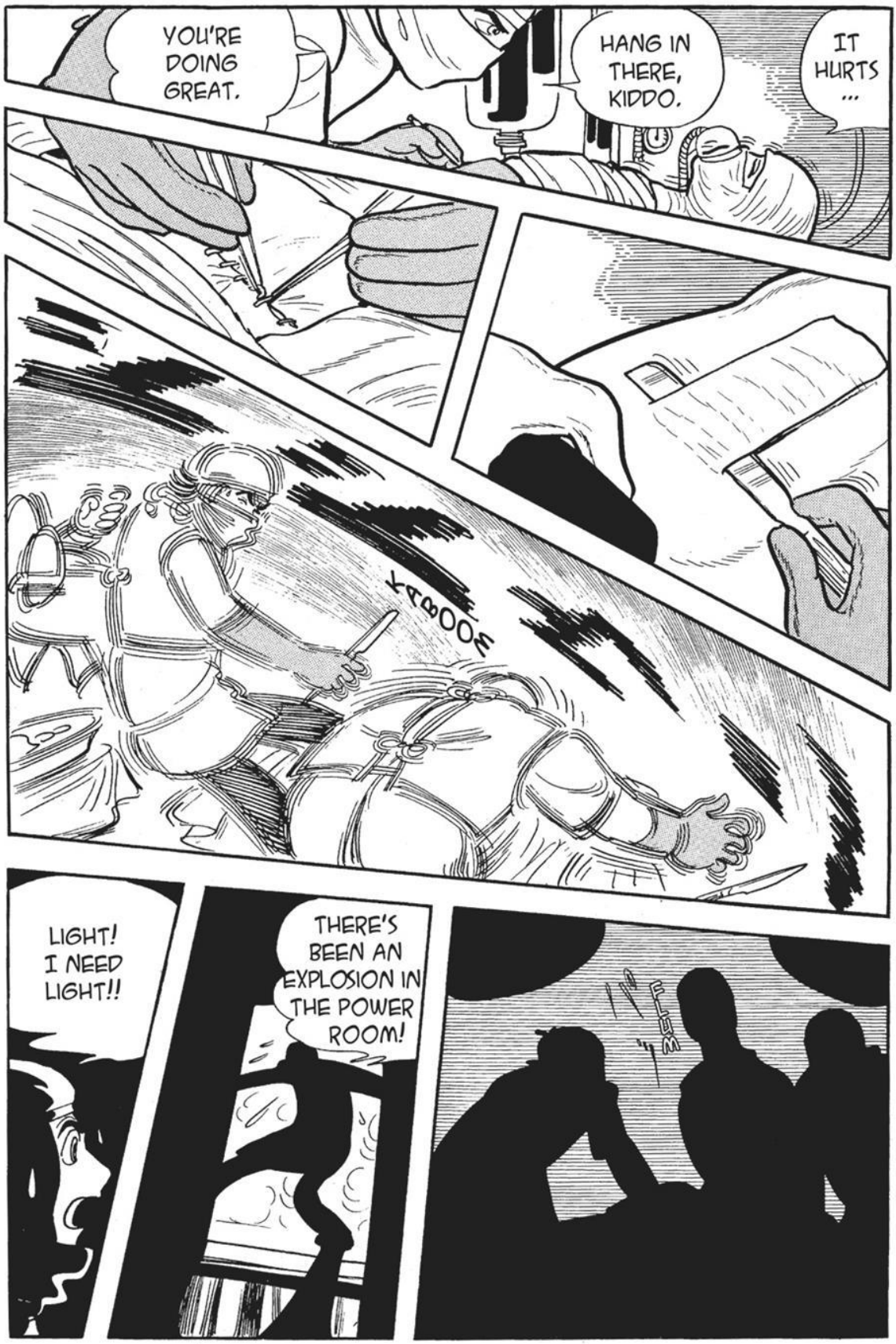
HE HATES GOING TO THE PUBLIC BATHS WITH ME.
MY SON'S HAD IT HARD WITH A DAD LIKE ME. I WANT TO RAISE HIM TO LEAD A PROPER LIFE.

HOW CAN I THANK YOU, DOC?
WELL, DON'T THANK ME YET.
WE'LL DO THE SECOND TRANSPLANT TOMORROW.

'COURSE, NOW THOSE TATTOOS ARE AS GOOD AS GONE.
WHEN I THINK OF THE SHAME I'VE PUT HIM THROUGH...
EVERYONE SHIVERS WHEN THEY SEE THE TATTOOS ON MY BACK.

...

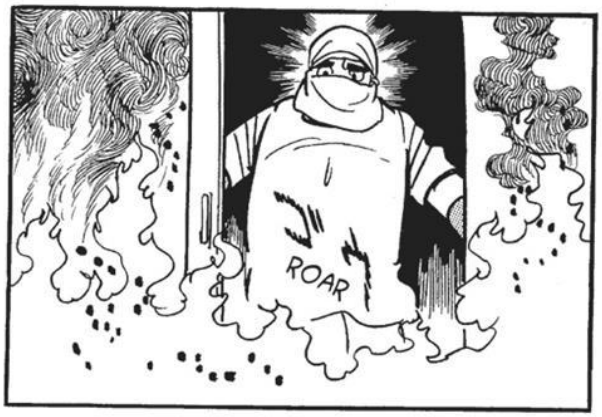
WHO'RE YOU KIDDING? TATTOO OR NO TATTOO, A GANGSTER'S A GANGSTER.
YEAH... YOU'RE RIGHT.

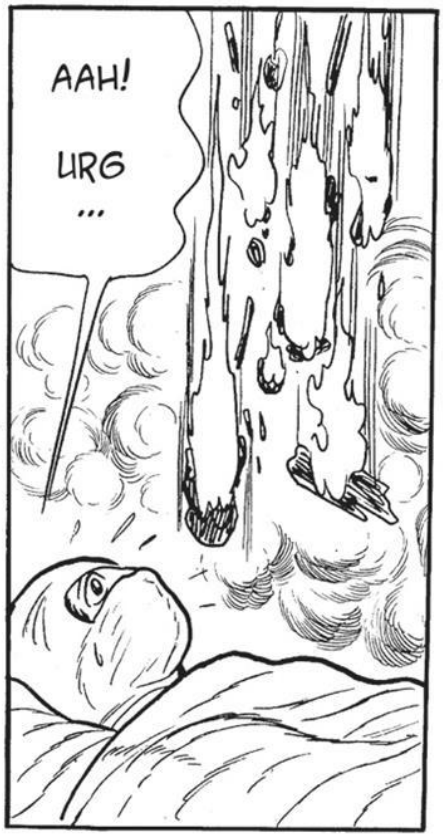

YOU'RE DOING GREAT.
HANG IN THERE, KIDDO.
IT HURTS ...
KABOOM
LIGHT! I NEED LIGHT!!
THERE'S BEEN AN EXPLOSION IN THE POWER ROOM!
CLICK

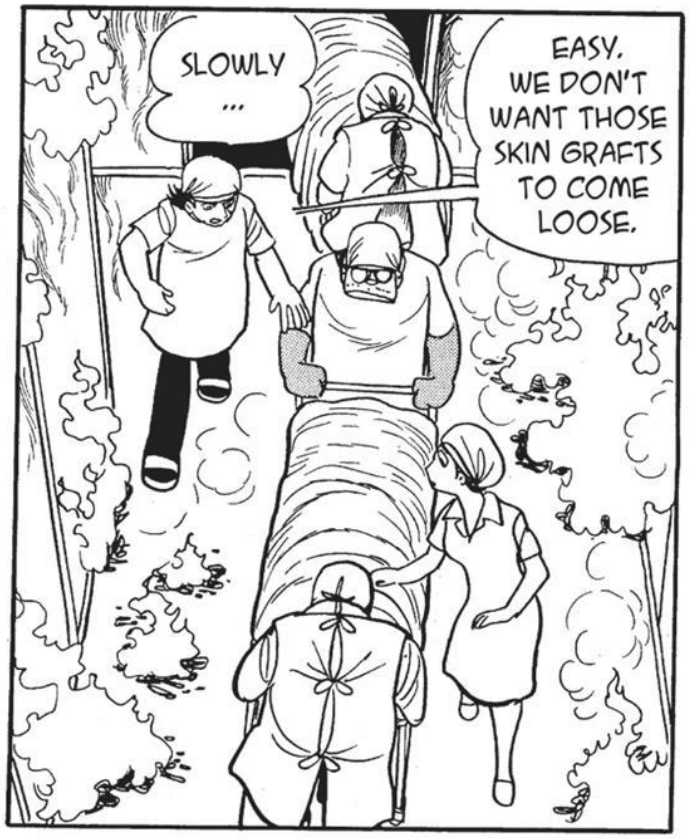
DON'T PANIC. I HAVE TO FINISH THE OPERATION !
THERE'S A FIRE. WE'RE IN DANGER, DOCTOR. WE GOTTA EVACUATE!
LIE DOWN OR THE OPERATION WILL FAIL!
HOLD STILL !
IT'S THE TENPO. BASTARDS !
SMOKE'S COMING IN ...
...
THE FIRE'S GETTING CLOSER! WE'VE GOTTA GET OUT OF HERE!
DOCTOR BLACK JACK!
RIGHT NOW!

ANYONE AFRAID TO DIE CAN LEAVE.
THE FIRE'S RIGHT OUTSIDE !

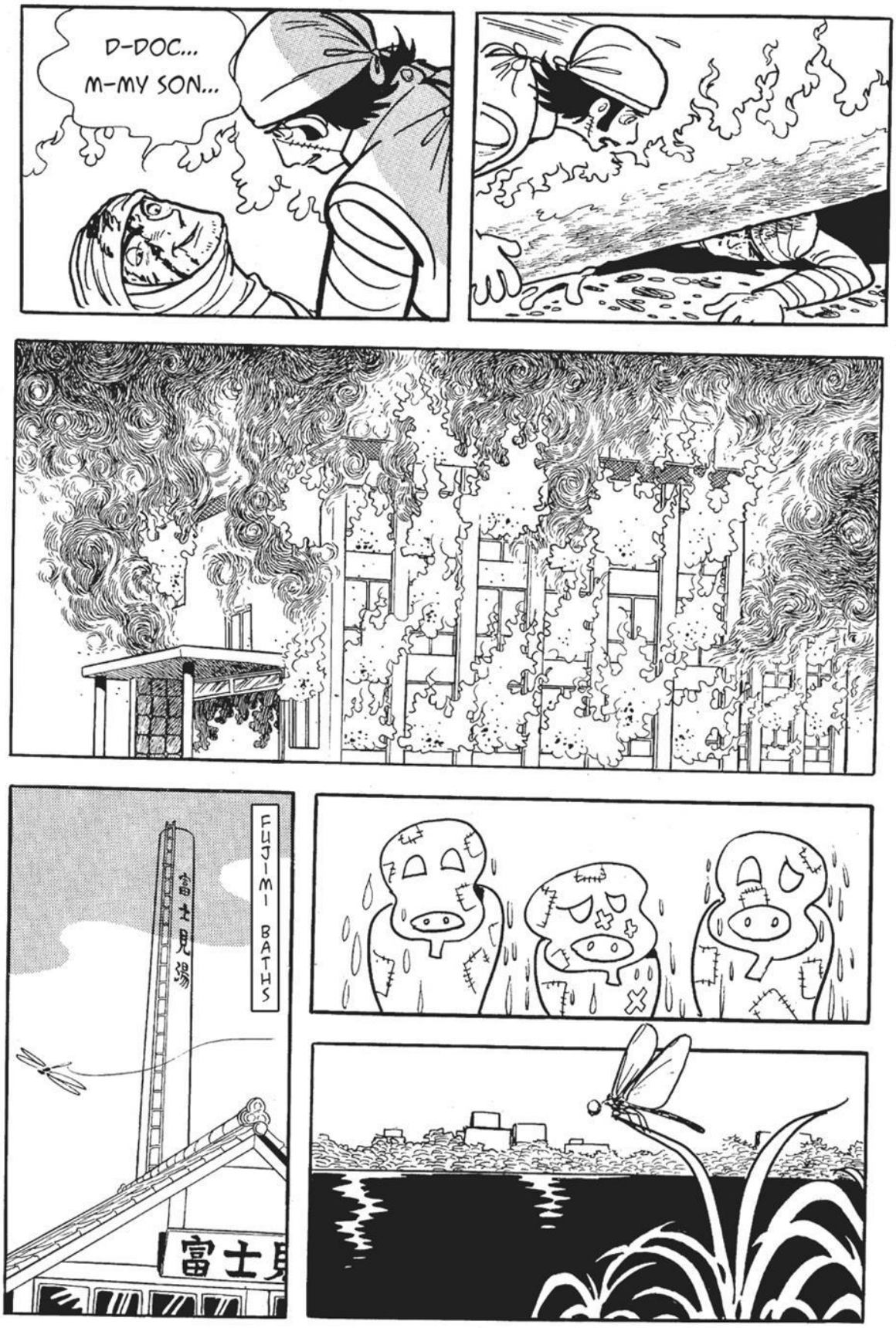
AND STAY CALM.
DONE! LOAD THEM ON TO STRETCHERS.

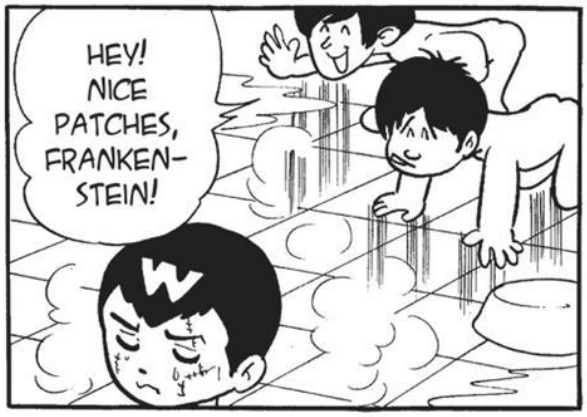

ROAR

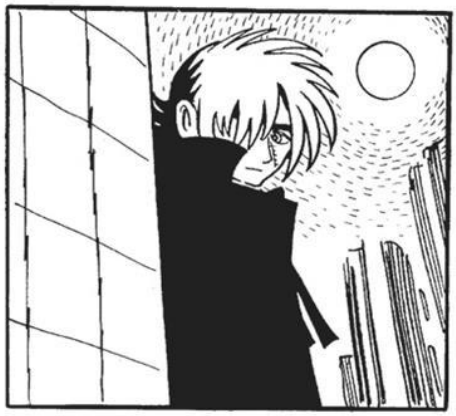

AAH!
URG ...


SLOWLY ...
EASY. WE DON'T WANT THOSE SKIN GRAFTS TO COME LOOSE.

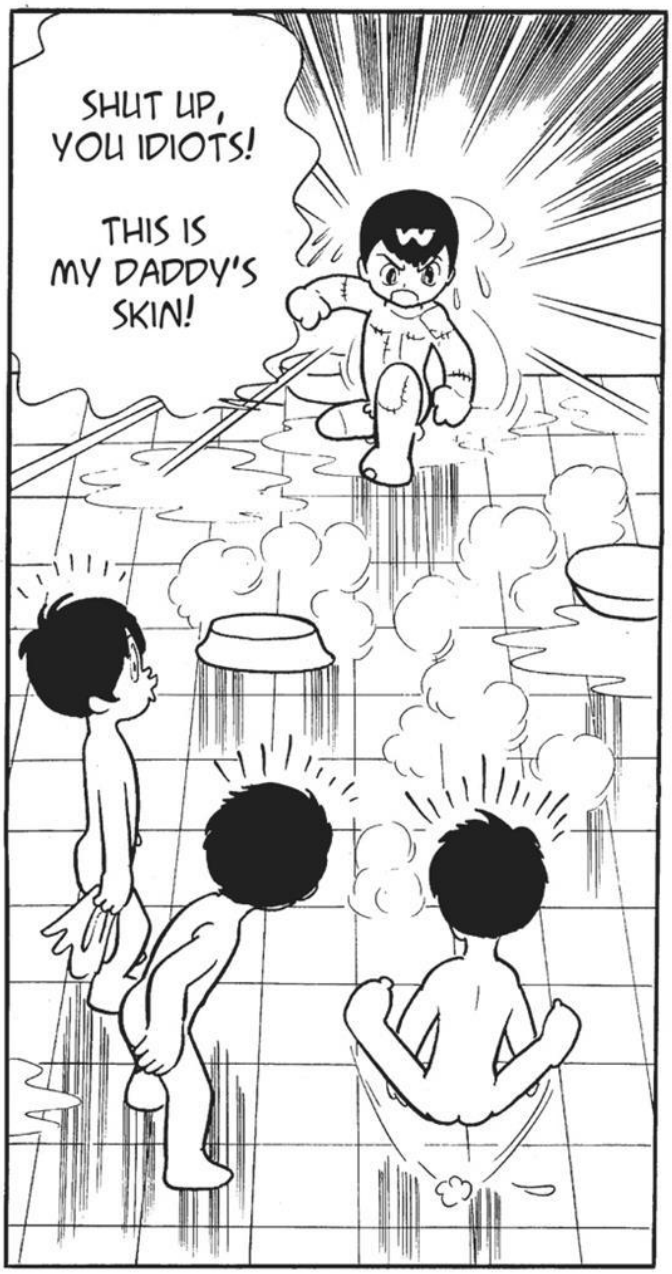
DOC !!
WHAP
DON'T JUST STAND THERE. GET A MOVE ON.
DOC! WATCH OUT!
KRASH
ガッシャン
YIKES !!


D-DOC...
M-MY SON...
FUJIMI BATHS
富士見湯
富士見

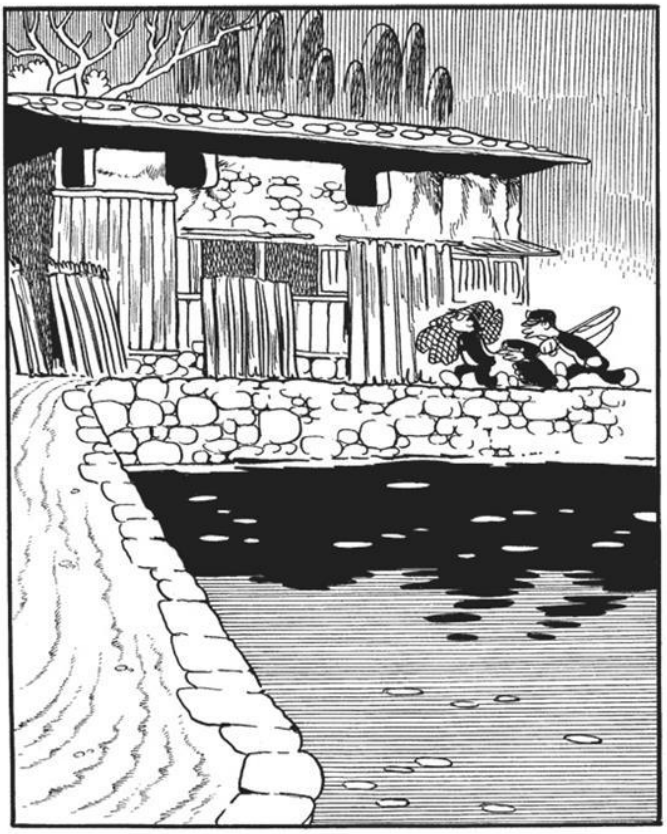

HEY! NICE PATCHES, FRANKEN-STEIN!

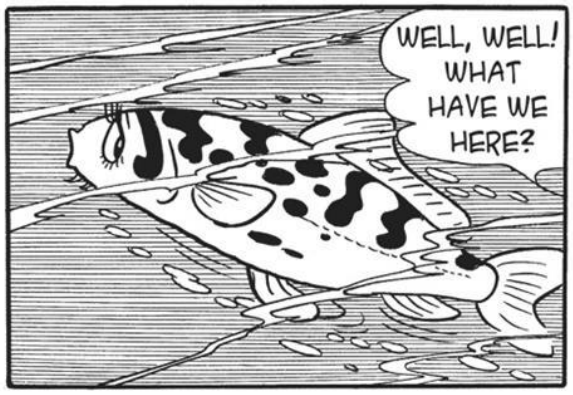


STAY STRONG, KID.

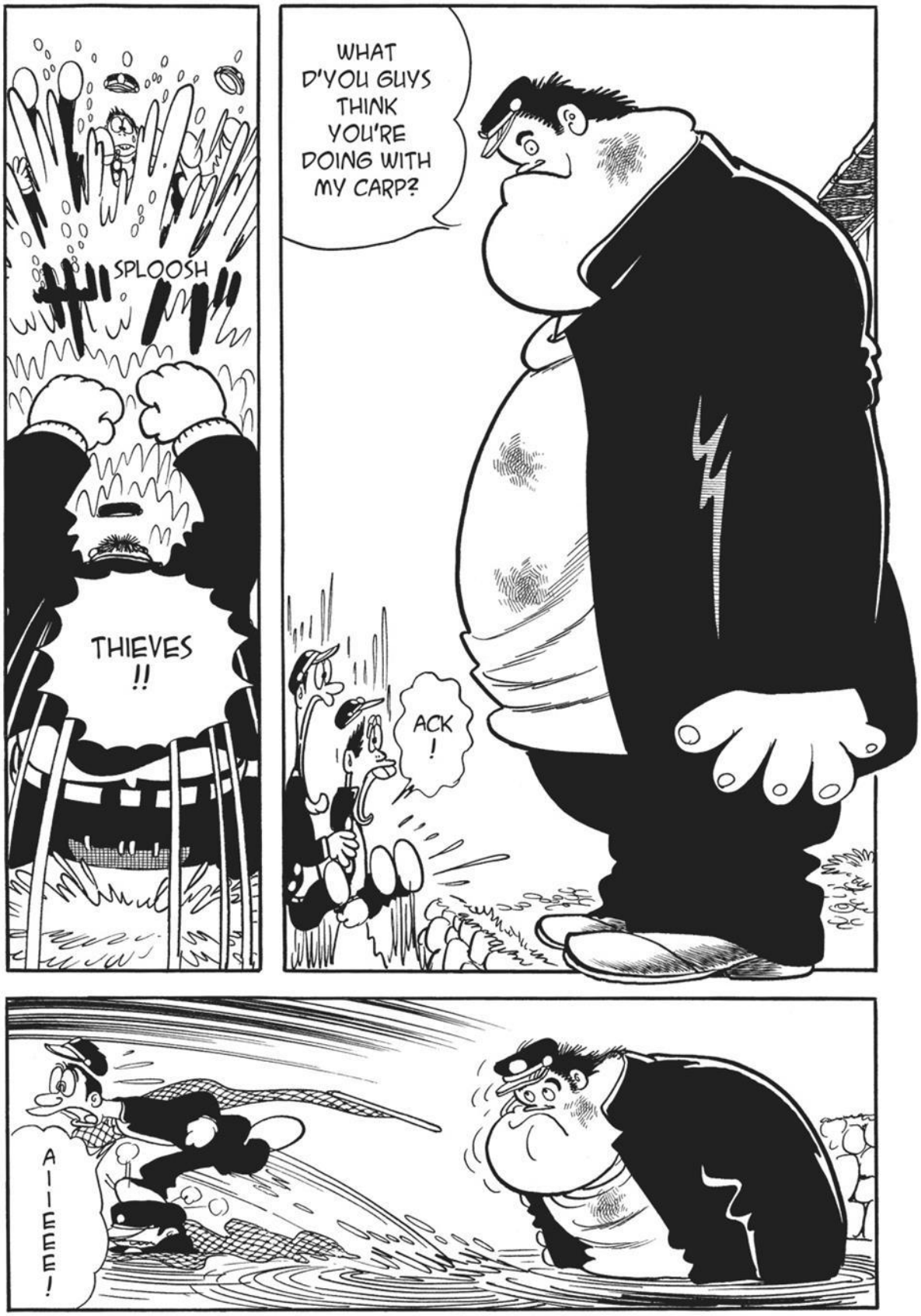

SHUT UP, YOU IDIOTS!
THIS IS MY DADDY'S SKIN!

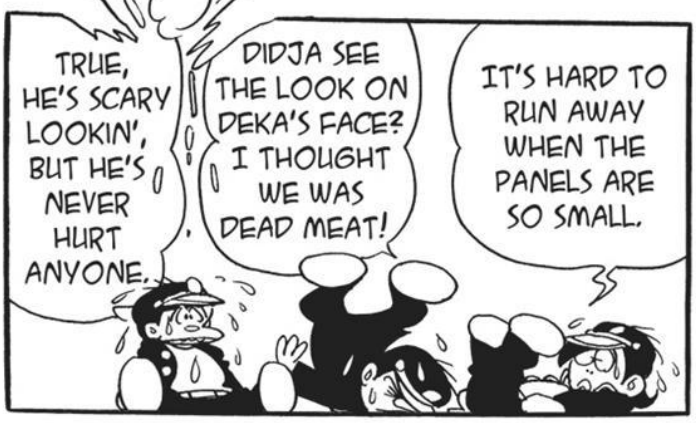
THE HEART OF A GIANT

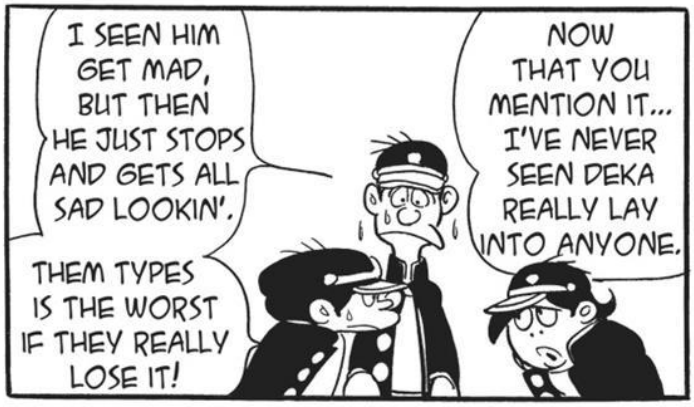


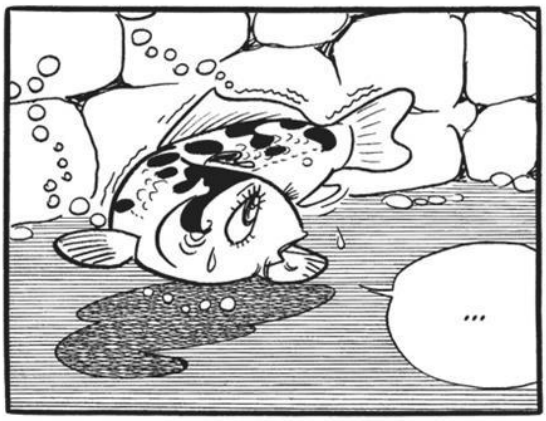


NOTE: KAKUEI TANAKA (PRIME MINISTER, 1972–74), WHOSE NAME IS STILL SYNONYMOUS WITH MONEY POLITICS, OWNED A MASSIVE ESTATE IN TOKYO'S EXPENSIVE MEJIRO DISTRICT.


SPLOOSH
THIEVES !!
WHAT D'YOU GUYS THINK YOU'RE DOING WITH MY CARP?
ACK !
AIIEEE!







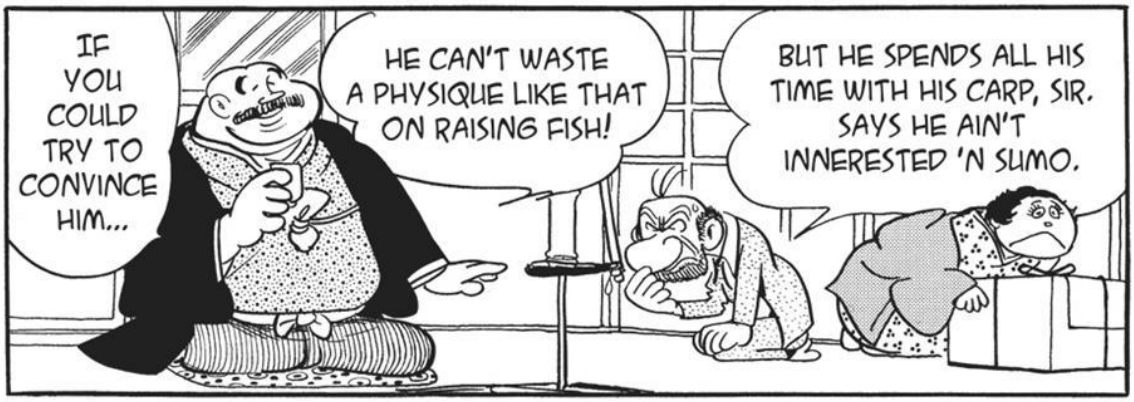
NOTE: "DEKA" MEANS *HUGE* IN JAPANESE. MACH (AS IN "SUPERSONIC") FUMIAKE, A FEMALE PRO-WRESTLER, LAUNCHED A SECOND CAREER AS A TV PERSONALITY THANKS TO HER RELATIVELY GOOD LOOKS.

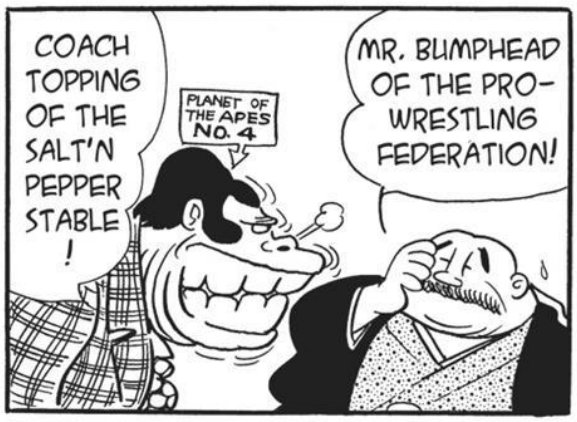
NOTE: FUJIO AKATSUKA = UNDISPUTED KING OF "GAG MANGA"

NOW, IF YOU'LL ENTRUST DEKA TO MY TUTELAGE, I'LL MAKE HIM A KOMUSUBI OR EVEN A YOKOZUNA, GUARANTEED!

WELL, THANKY KINDLY ...

IT'S NOTHING, REALLY! I DON'T CARE HOW MANY TIMES I HAVE TO ASK.
ANOTHER GIFT, SIR? YOU REALLY SHOULDN'T HAVE.
WELL, DEKA AIN'T AVAILABLE JES' NOW.

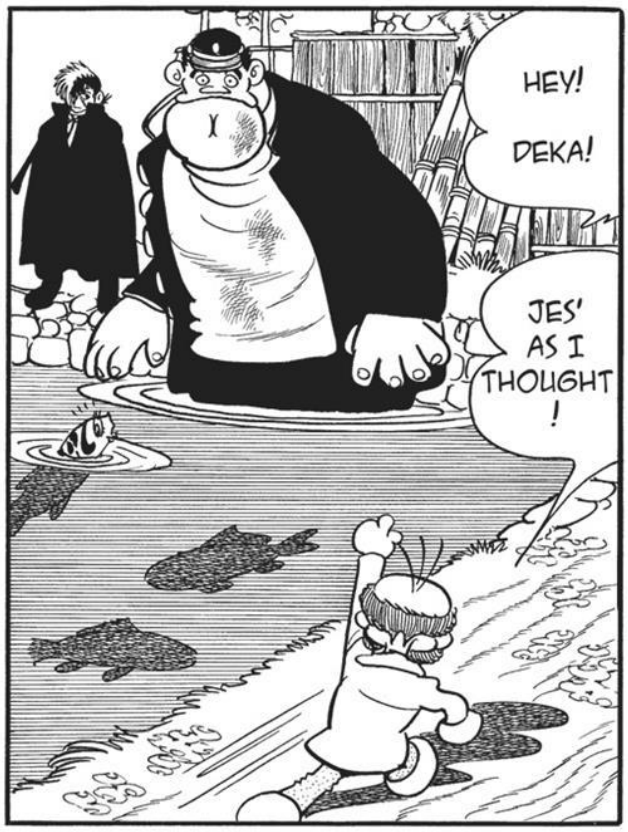

IF YOU COULD TRY TO CONVINCE HIM...
HE CAN'T WASTE A PHYSIQUE LIKE THAT ON RAISING FISH!
BUT HE SPENDS ALL HIS TIME WITH HIS CARP, SIR. SAYS HE AIN'T INNERESTED 'N SUMO.

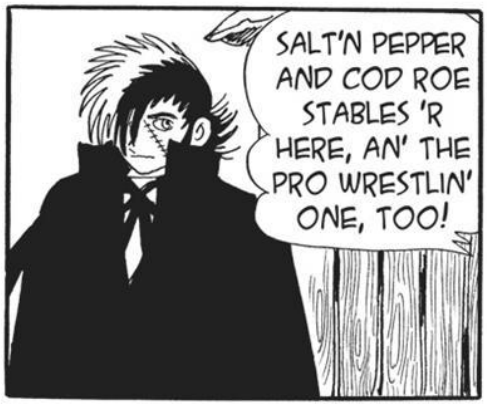

COACH TOPPING OF THE SALT'N PEPPER STABLE !
PLANET OF THE APES No. 4
MR. BUMPHEAD OF THE PRO-WRESTLING FEDERATION!

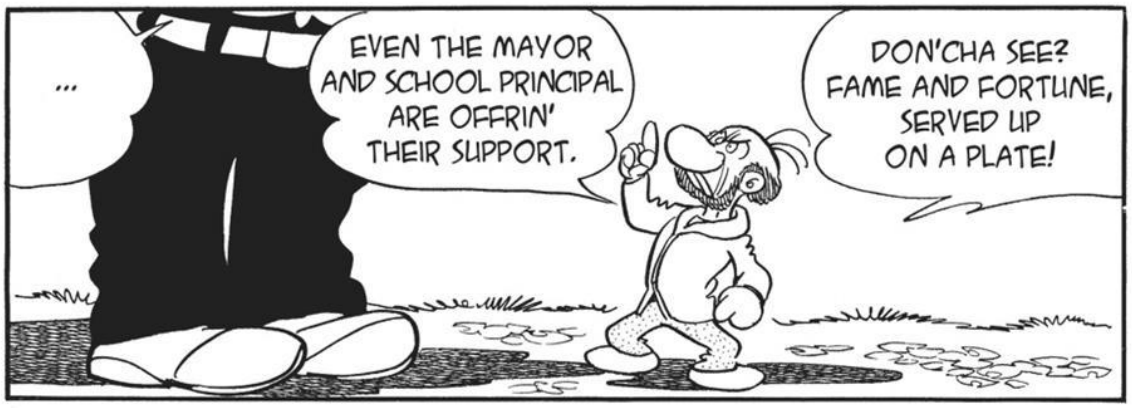
"FWOM"
RODDY McDO-WALL

MA'AM, WHEN I LOOK AT THE YOUNG MEN IN THE PRO-WRESTLING WORLD THESE DAYS
WE'VE BEEN COURTING DEKA FOR 4 MONTHS NOW.
YOU'D BETTER BUTT OUT, COACH.
I'LL BE BACK.
I S'POSE SO...
IF WE MAKE HIM A CHAMPION, HE'LL BE WORLD-FAMOUS! THIS ISN'T JUST A JAPANESE SPORT LIKE SUMO!
THERE ISN'T A SINGLE ONE WHO CAN HOLD A CANDLE TO YOUR SON.
I'M 'FRAID MY SON AIN'T IN JES' NOW.
CHAIRMAN BUMPHEAD? PERFECT! HOW 'BOUT A SHOT OF YOU WITH DEKA?
SPORT SPIRIT DAILY! WE JUST CALLED.
PLAYIN' WITH FISH AT A TIME LIKE THIS!
I SWEAR, THAT BOY ...
PROLLY DOWN AT THE FISH POND!
I'LL SEE IF I KIN FIND HIM.

WHAT ON EARTH ARE YA THINKIN'?
KEEPIN' ALL 'EM GUESTS WAITIN' ...

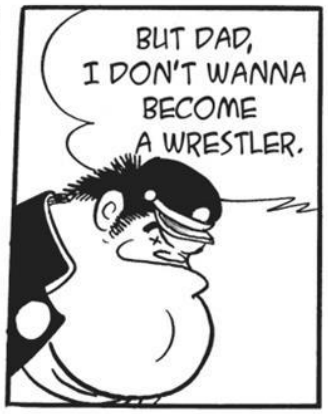

HEY! DEKA!
JES' AS I THOUGHT !

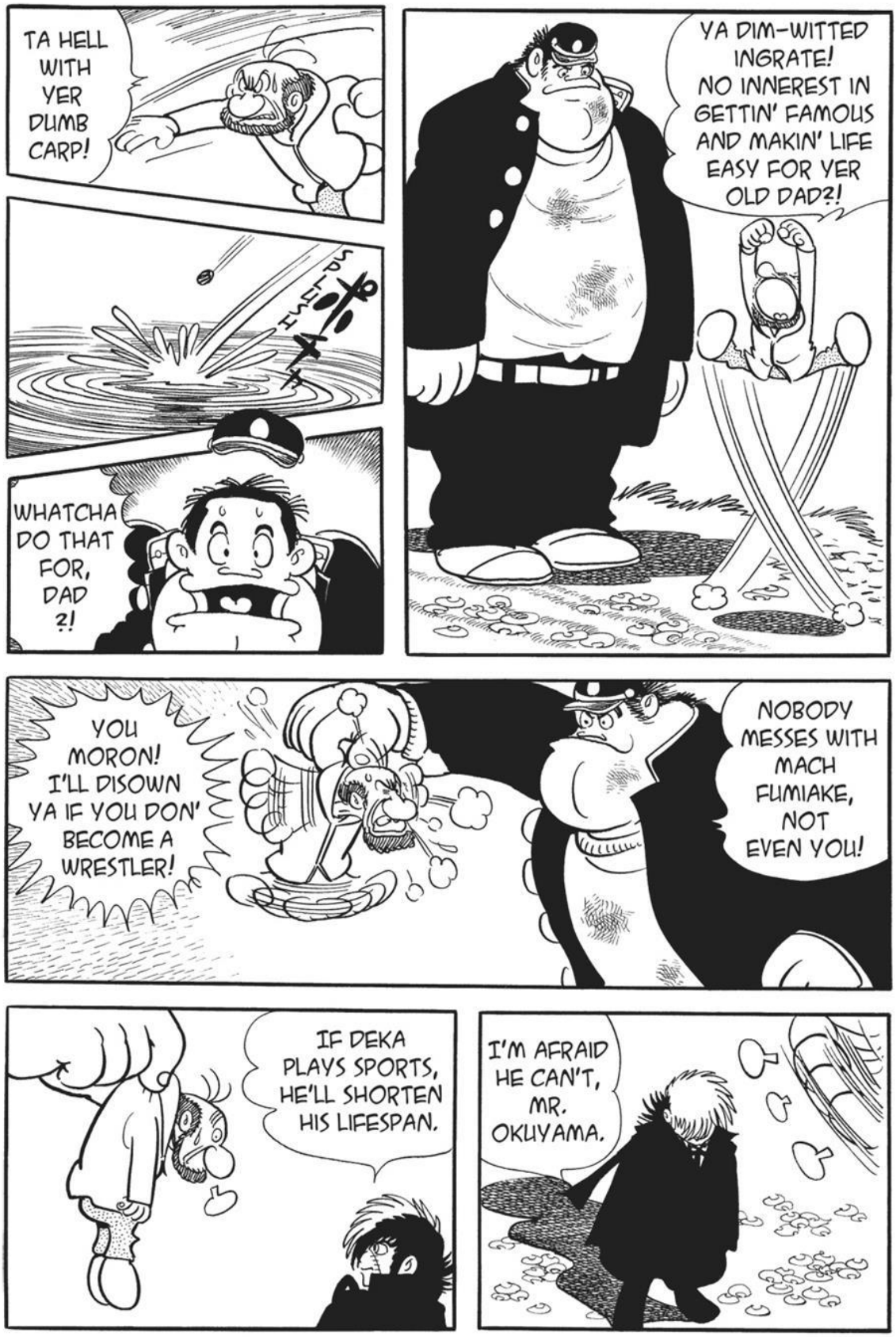

SALT'N PEPPER AND COD ROE STABLES 'R HERE, AN' THE PRO WRESTLIN' ONE, TOO!

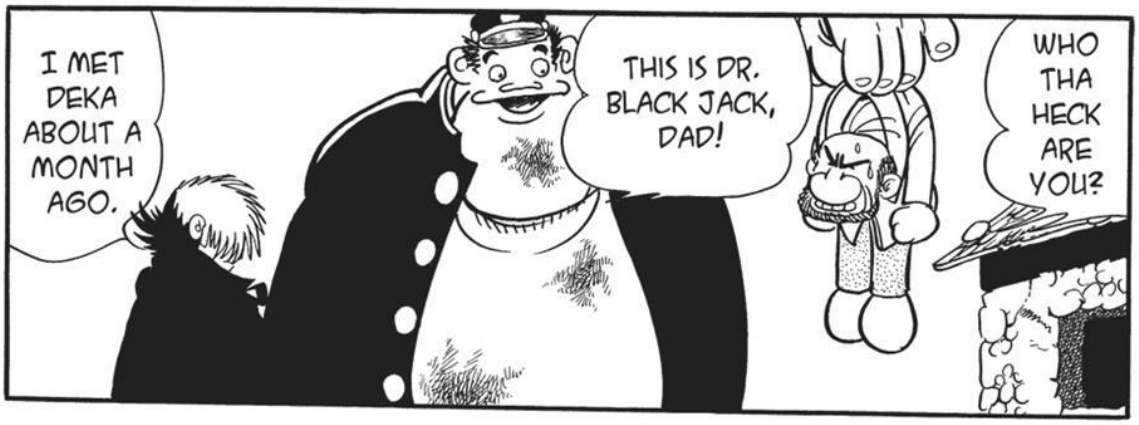

...
EVEN THE MAYOR AND SCHOOL PRINCIPAL ARE OFFRIN' THEIR SUPPORT.
DON'CHA SEE? FAME AND FORTUNE, SERVED UP ON A PLATE!

YOU IDIOT !!

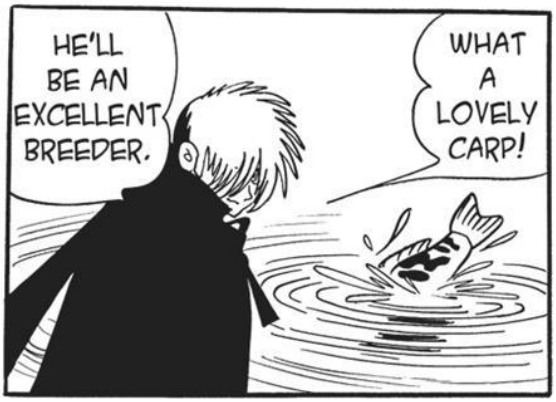
I WANNA BE JAPAN'S BEST CARP BREEDER.

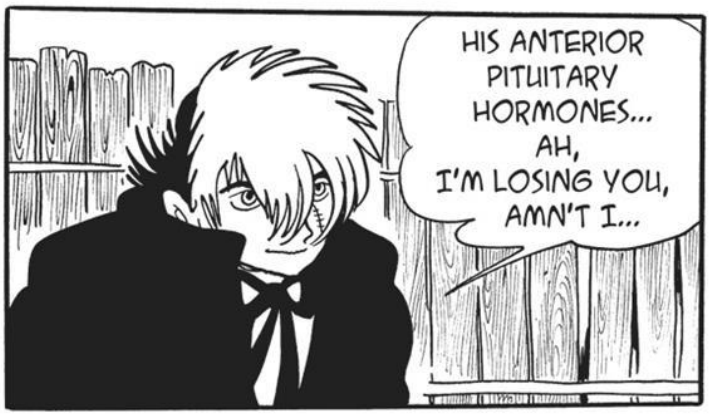

BUT DAD, I DON'T WANNA BECOME A WRESTLER.


TA HELL WITH YER DUMB CARP!
WHATCHA DO THAT FOR, DAD ?!
YA DIM-WITTED INGRATE! NO INNEREST IN GETTIN' FAMOUS AND MAKIN' LIFE EASY FOR YER OLD DAD?!
YOU MORON! I'LL DISOWN YA IF YOU DON' BECOME A WRESTLER!
NOBODY MESSES WITH MACH FUMIAKE, NOT EVEN YOU!
IF DEKA PLAYS SPORTS, HE'LL SHORTEN HIS LIFESPAN.
I'M AFRAID HE CAN'T, MR. OKUYAMA.


I MET DEKA ABOUT A MONTH AGO.
THIS IS DR. BLACK JACK, DAD!
WHO THA HECK ARE YOU?

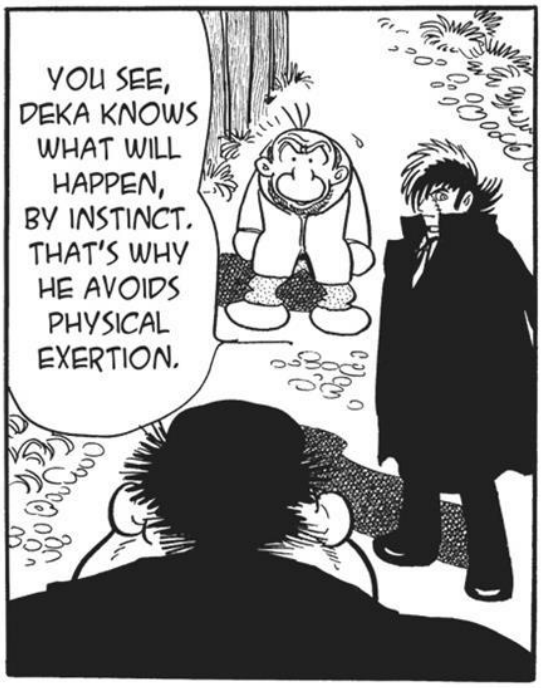
SPORTS SHORTEN HIS LIFE? POPPYCOCK!
YER A DOCTOR, SO WHAT?
BUTT OUT!


HE'LL BE AN EXCELLENT BREEDER.
WHAT A LOVELY CARP!


HIS ANTERIOR PITUITARY HORMONES... AH, I'M LOSING YOU, AMN'T I...

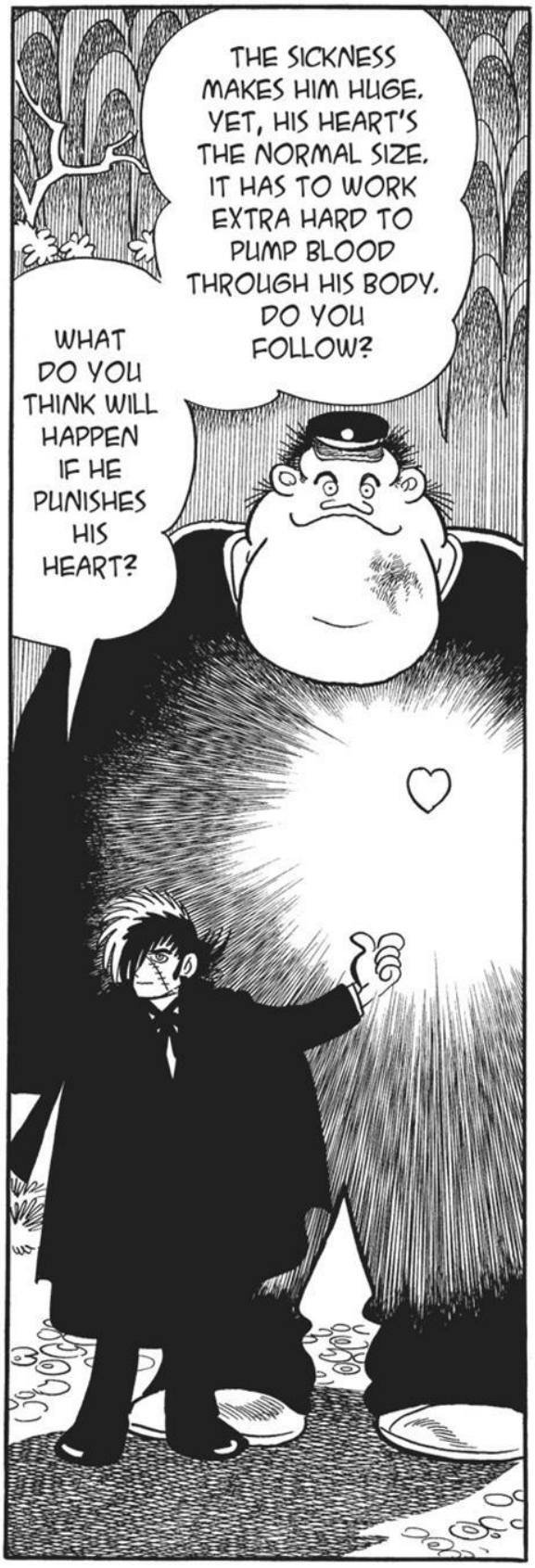
WHUT ?!
BASICALLY, HE'S SICK.

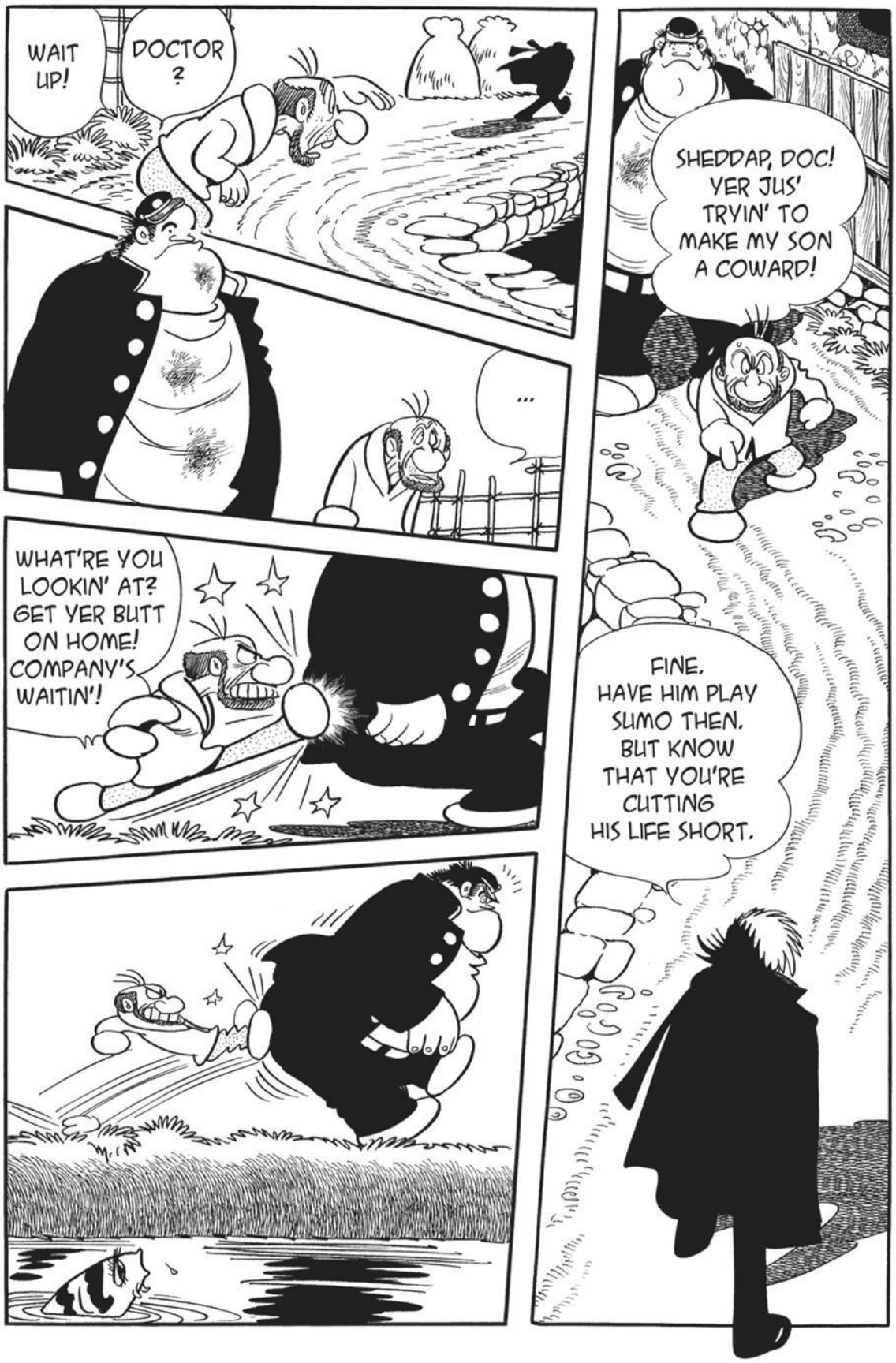
DEKA WAS BORN WITH A CONDITION KNOWN AS GIGANTISM. HIS IS A RARE, EXTREME CASE.


YOU SEE, DEKA KNOWS WHAT WILL HAPPEN, BY INSTINCT. THAT'S WHY HE AVOIDS PHYSICAL EXERTION.

BUT HE WAS THE NATIONAL STUDENT SUMO CHAMPION!

THAT'S WHY HE NEVER WANTS TO PLAY SUMO AGAIN.
TRUE. BUT HE WAS PUSHING IT...


THE SICKNESS MAKES HIM HUGE. YET, HIS HEART'S THE NORMAL SIZE. IT HAS TO WORK EXTRA HARD TO PUMP BLOOD THROUGH HIS BODY. DO YOU FOLLOW?
WHAT DO YOU THINK WILL HAPPEN IF HE PUNISHES HIS HEART?


WAIT UP!
DOCTOR ?
...
WHAT'RE YOU LOOKIN' AT? GET YER BUTT ON HOME! COMPANY'S WAITIN'!
SHEDDAP, DOC! YER JUS' TRYIN' TO MAKE MY SON A COWARD!
FINE. HAVE HIM PLAY SUMO THEN. BUT KNOW THAT YOU'RE CUTTING HIS LIFE SHORT.

...
I DON'T KNOW...

I'M GONNA JOIN THE SALT'N PEPPER STABLE.

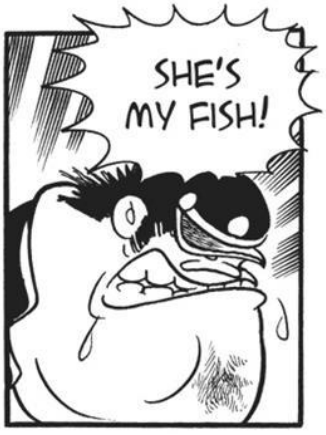
I WANNA MAKE MONEY
MY FOLKS ARE POOR.
AND DO RIGHT BY 'EM...
SNIF

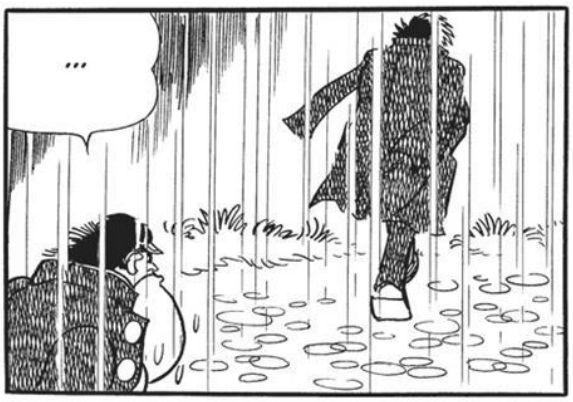
HECK NO!
CAN I HAVE IT?

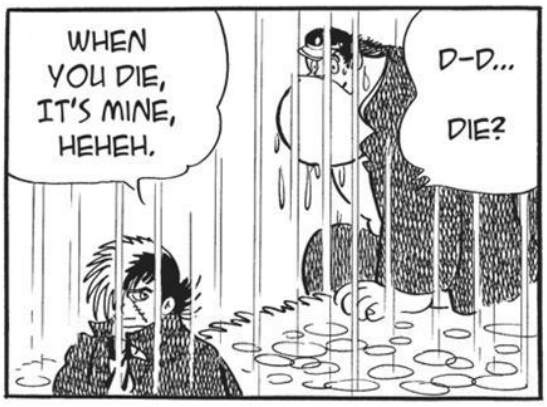
THAT'S A LOVELY CARP.

SINCE YOU'RE GOING TO DIE ANYWAY, WHY NOT GIVE IT TO ME?

A FISH FETISH, HEH.
YOU SURE LOVE THAT THING.


SHE'S MY FISH!


...

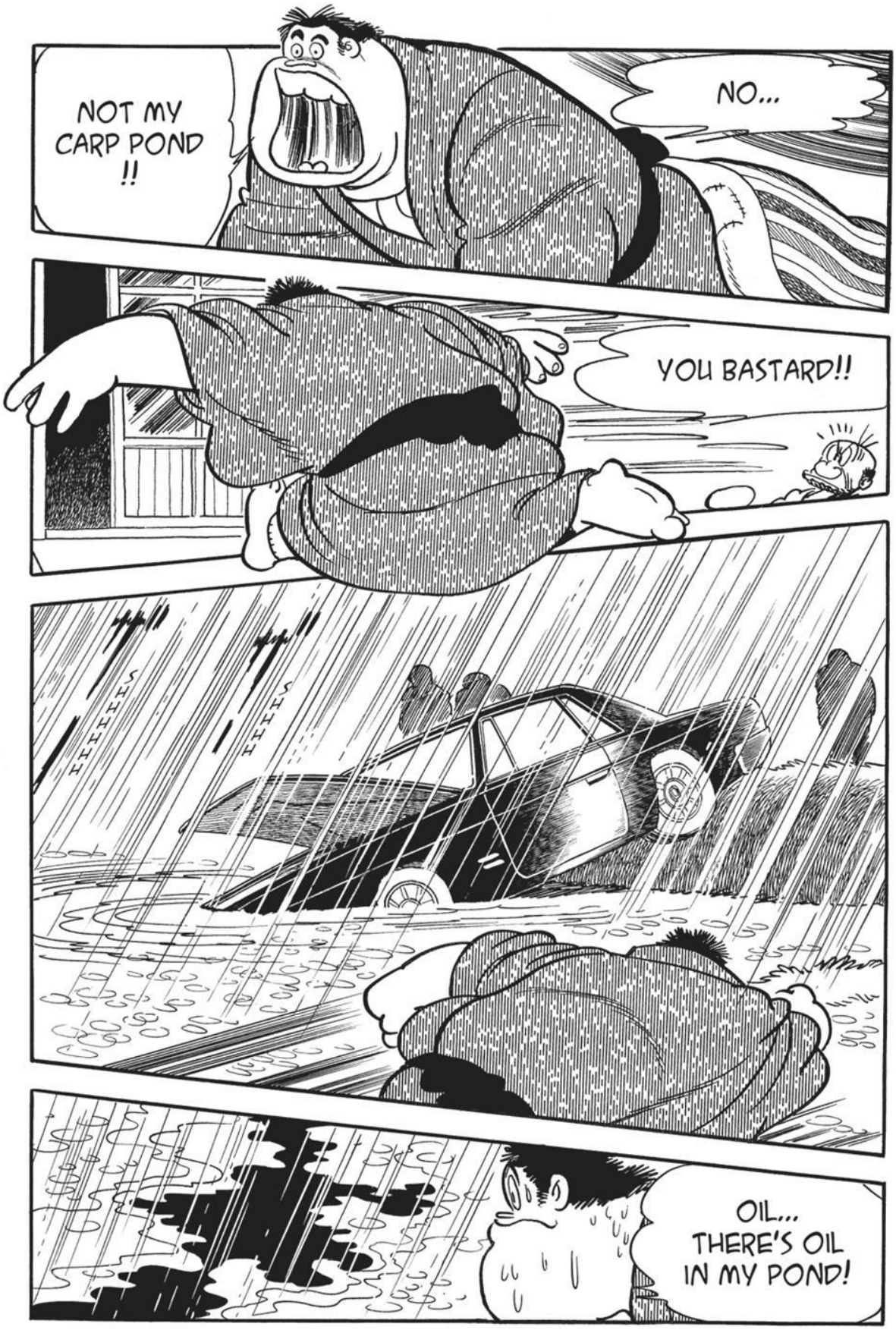

WHEN YOU DIE, IT'S MINE, HEHEH.
D-D... DIE?

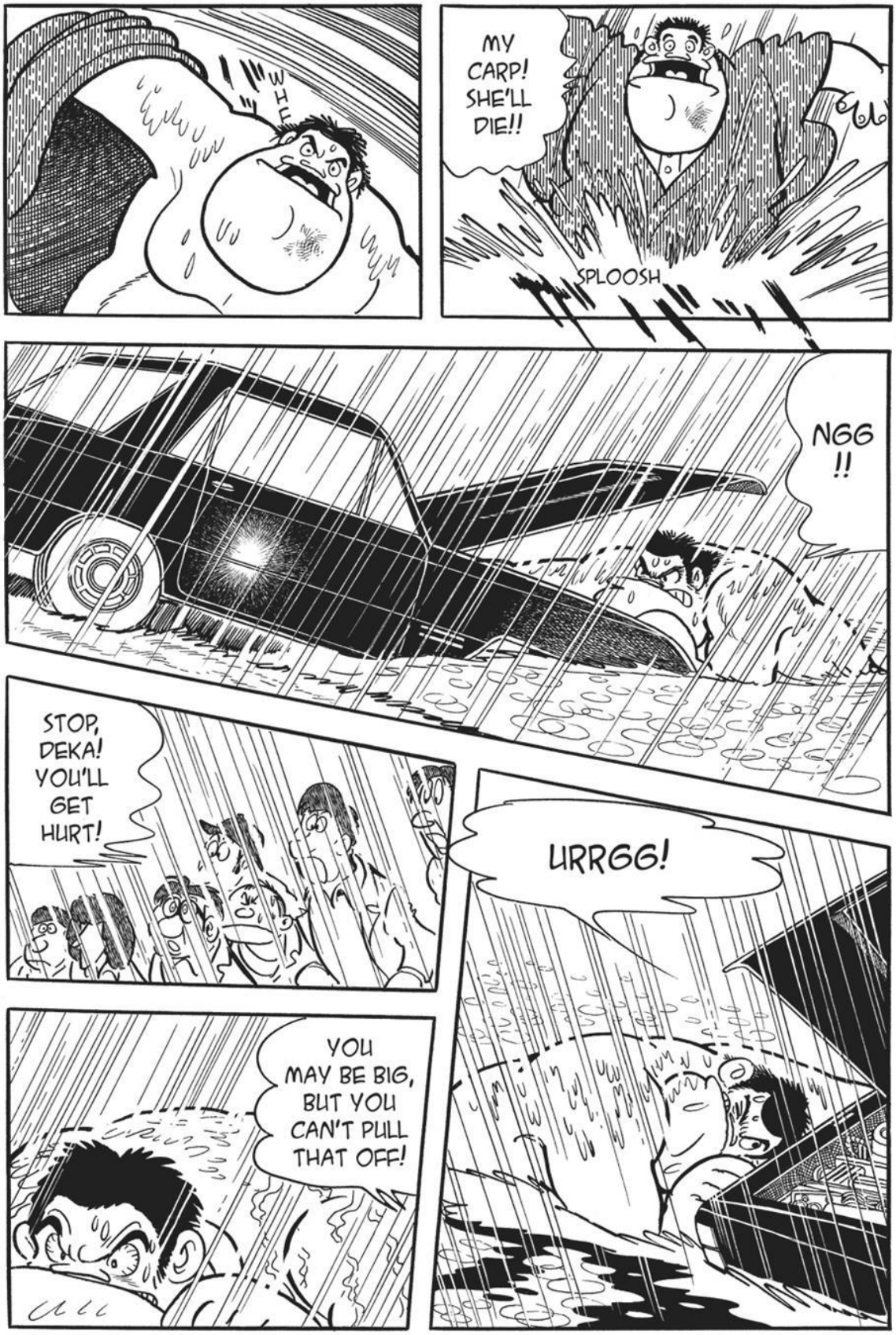
DON'T FERGET THE GIFT FER YOUR COACH!
GET TO BED, DEKA! YOU LEAVE FER TOKYO T'MORROW!

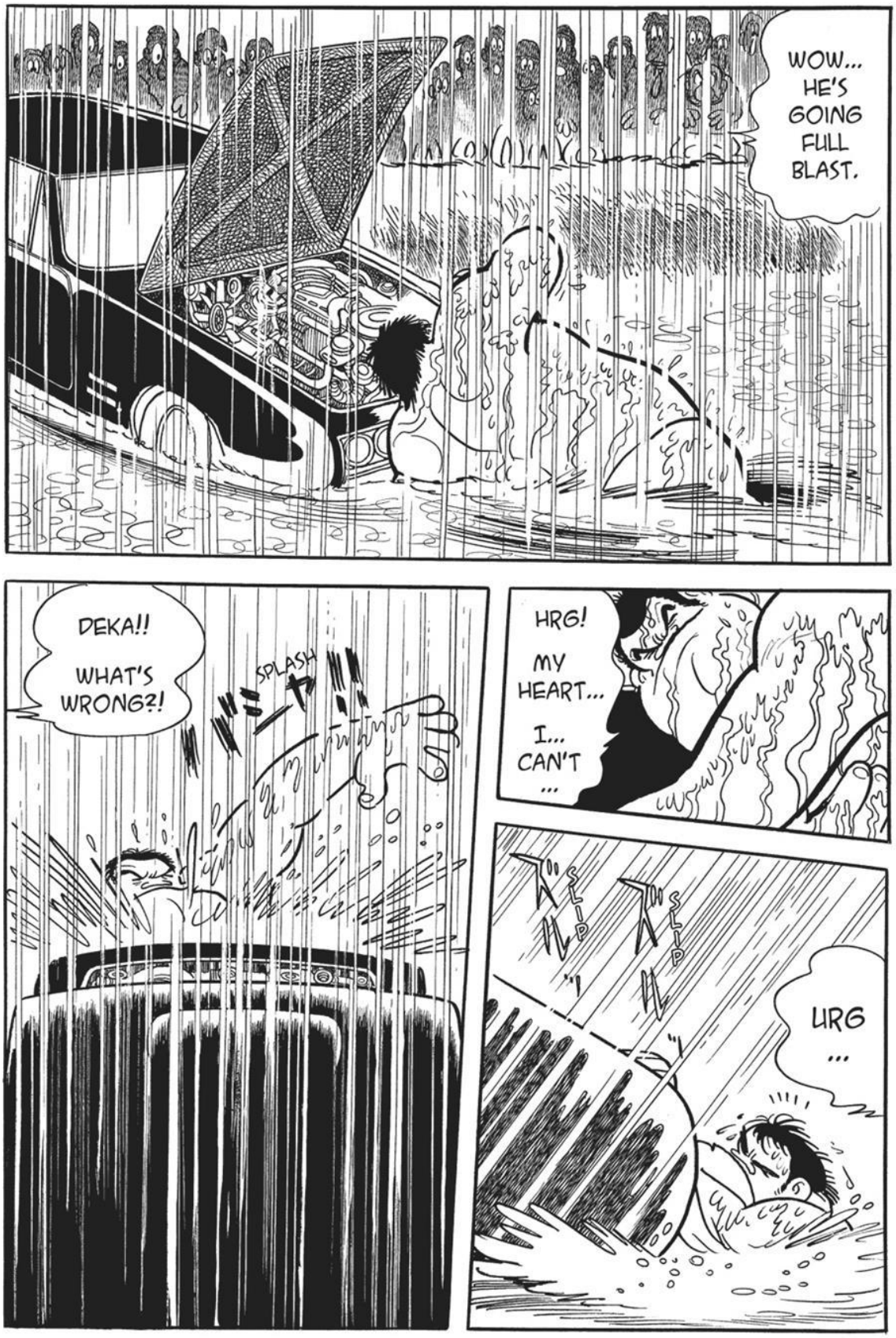
WHICH POND ??

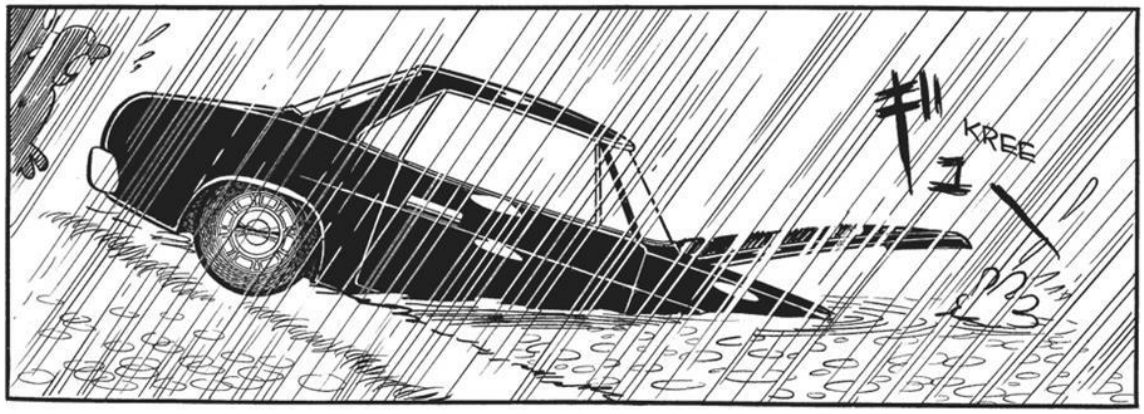
'SCUSE ME! MY CAR SKIDDED INTO A POND. WILL YOU LEND ME A HAND?

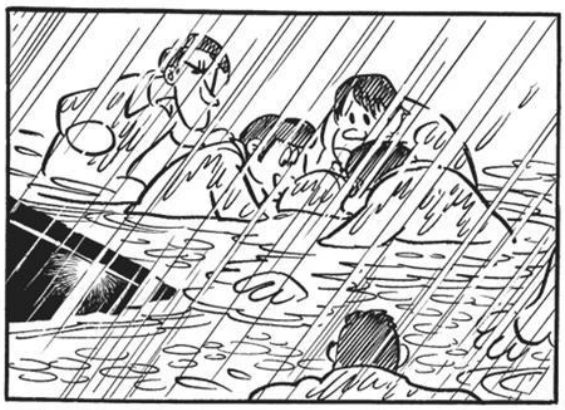
BAM
BAM
BAM


NOT MY CARP POND !!
NO...
YOU BASTARD!!
SHHHH
SHHHH
OIL... THERE'S OIL IN MY POND!


WHE
MY CARP! SHE'LL DIE!!
SPLOOSH
NGG !!
STOP, DEKA! YOU'LL GET HURT!
URRGG!
YOU MAY BE BIG, BUT YOU CAN'T PULL THAT OFF!

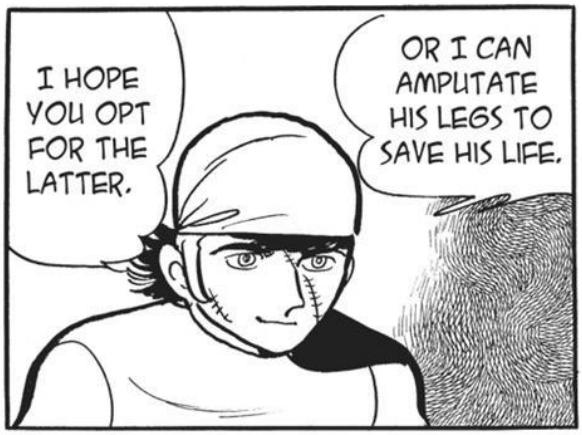

WOW... HE'S GOING FULL BLAST.
DEKA!! WHAT'S WRONG?!
SPLASH
HRG! MY HEART... I... CAN'T ...
SLIP
SLIP
URG ...


KREE



HE'S CAUGHT BETWEEN THE CAR AND A ROCK!
DEKAAAA!

YOU CAN EITHER LET HIM DIE...


OR I CAN AMPUTATE HIS LEGS TO SAVE HIS LIFE.
I HOPE YOU OPT FOR THE LATTER.

HIS HEART COULDN'T TAKE IT. JUST AS I TOLD YOU, MR. OKUYAMA.

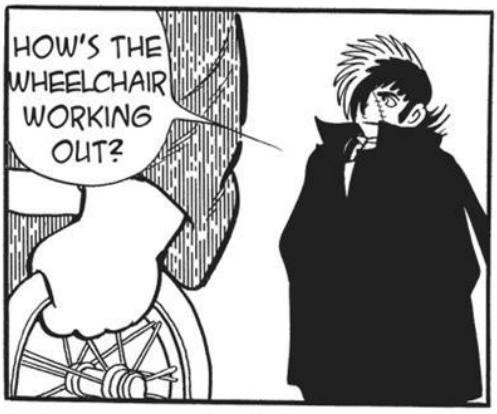
IF I AMPUTATE HIS LEGS, THAT'LL REDUCE THE BURDEN.
AS I SAID, HIS SIZE PLACES A LOT OF STRAIN ON HIS HEART.

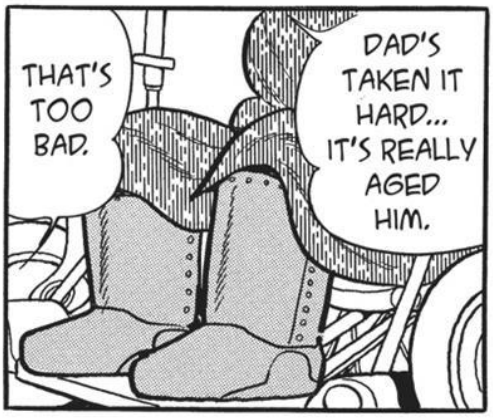
AMPUTATE HIS LEGS?!

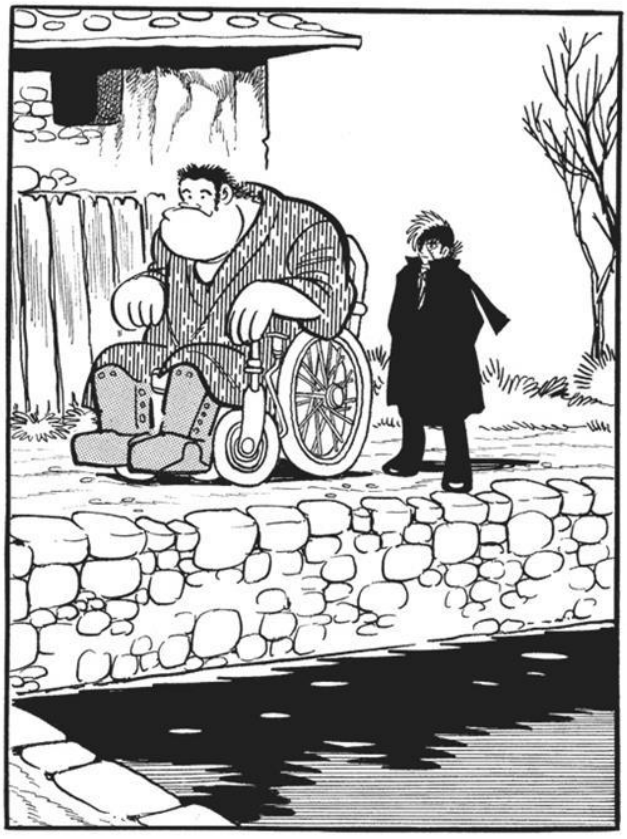
HE WON'T NEED HIS LEGS TO BECOME THE BEST CARP BREEDER IN JAPAN ...

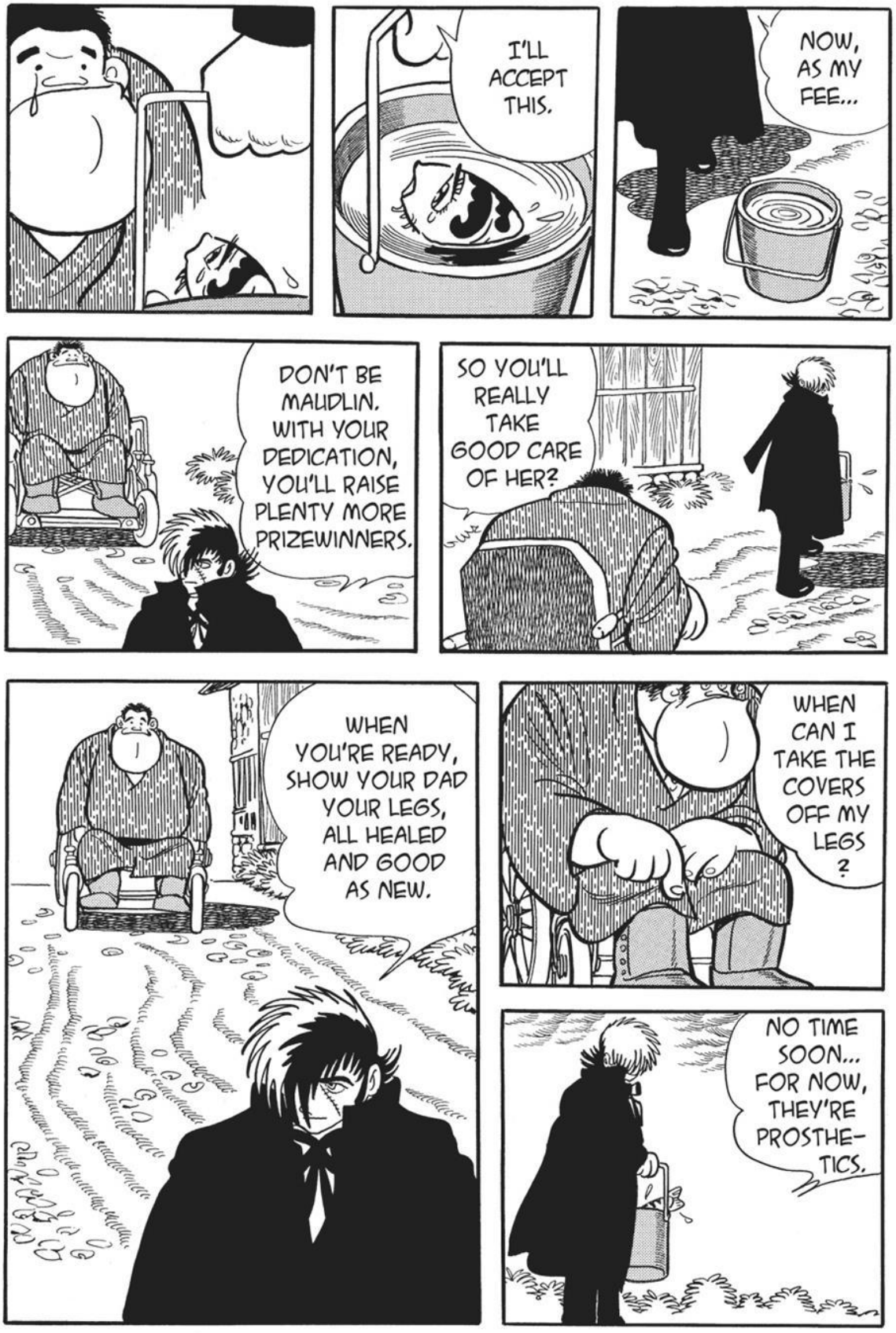
NOT AS CRUEL AS FORCING HIM INTO SUMO WRESTLING !
CRUEL?

IT'S TOO CRUEL!

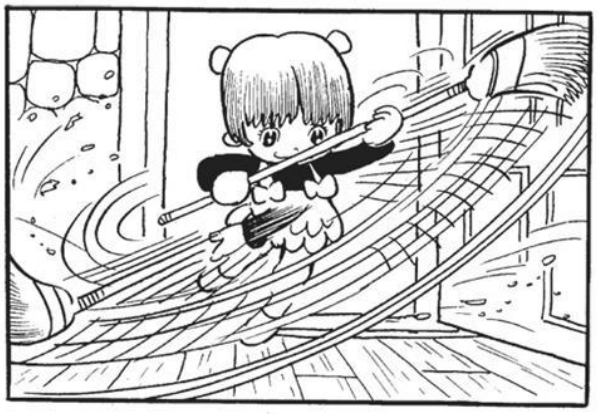

HOW'S THE WHEELCHAIR WORKING OUT?

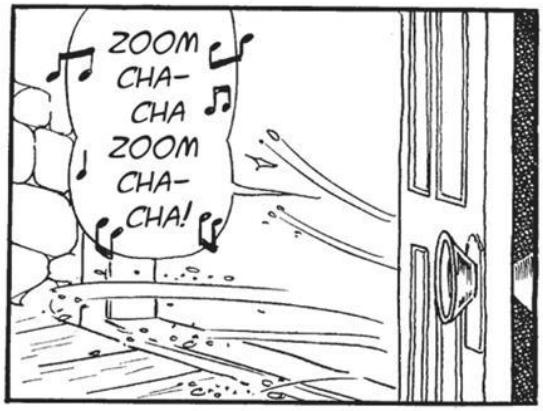

THAT'S TOO BAD.
DAD'S TAKEN IT HARD... IT'S REALLY AGED HIM.




I'LL ACCEPT THIS.
NOW, AS MY FEE...
DON'T BE MAUDLIN. WITH YOUR DEDICATION, YOU'LL RAISE PLENTY MORE PRIZEWINNERS.
SO YOU'LL REALLY TAKE GOOD CARE OF HER?
WHEN YOU'RE READY, SHOW YOUR DAD YOUR LEGS, ALL HEALED AND GOOD AS NEW.
WHEN CAN I TAKE THE COVERS OFF MY LEGS ?
NO TIME SOON... FOR NOW, THEY'RE PROSTHE-TICS.

GAS




ZOOM CHA-CHA ZOOM CHA-CHA!

IF YOU DEJIRE MY PWECIOUS TWEASURE, THEN LOVE ME TWUE! ZOOM CHA-CHA! ZOOM CHA-CHA!

LA DI DA! DA DI DA!

MY FWOAT IS HOARSH... MUSHT BE A COLD.

COLD MEDSHIN... FOUND IT!

ゴホ KOFF ゴホ ゴホ KOFF ゴホ

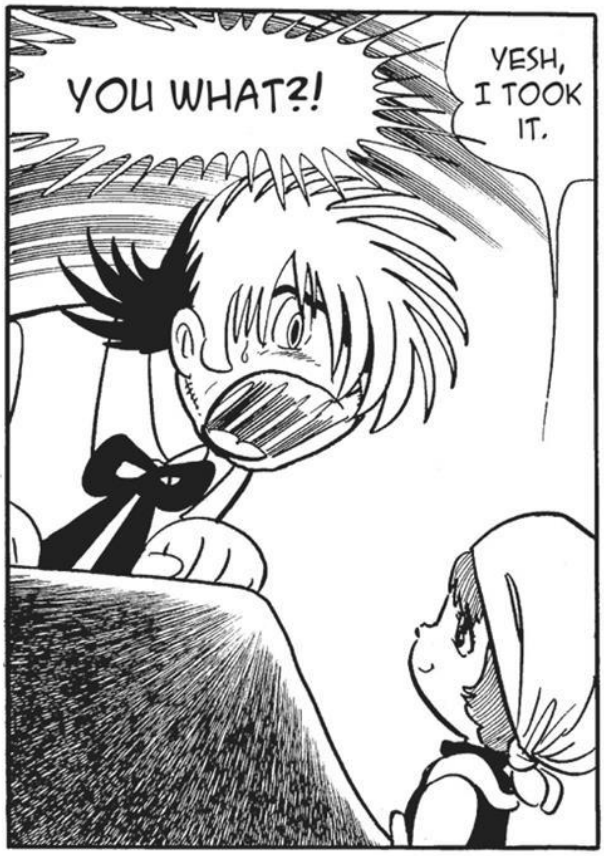
FWOOO

コクン
コクン
コクン

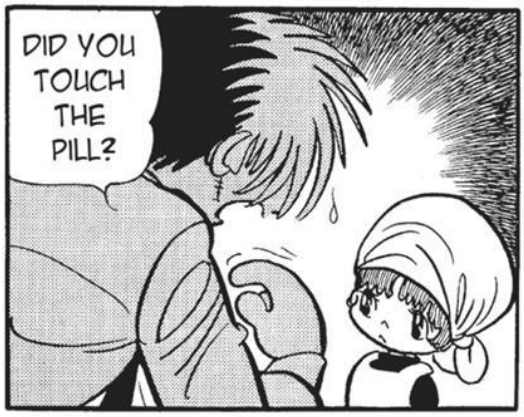
I WEMEMBER WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE.

PINOKO!!

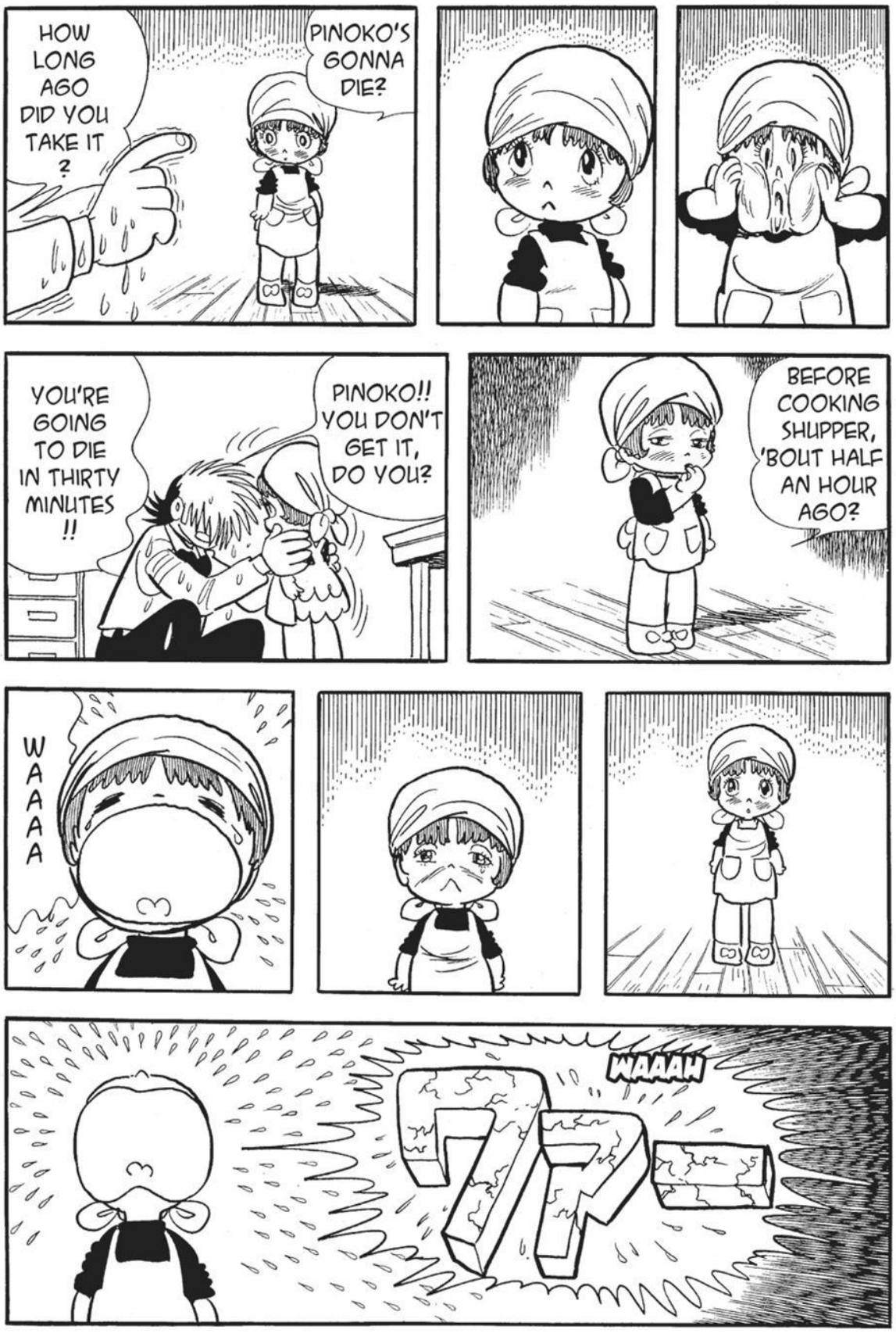
ZOOM CHA-CHA ZOOM CHA-CHA!

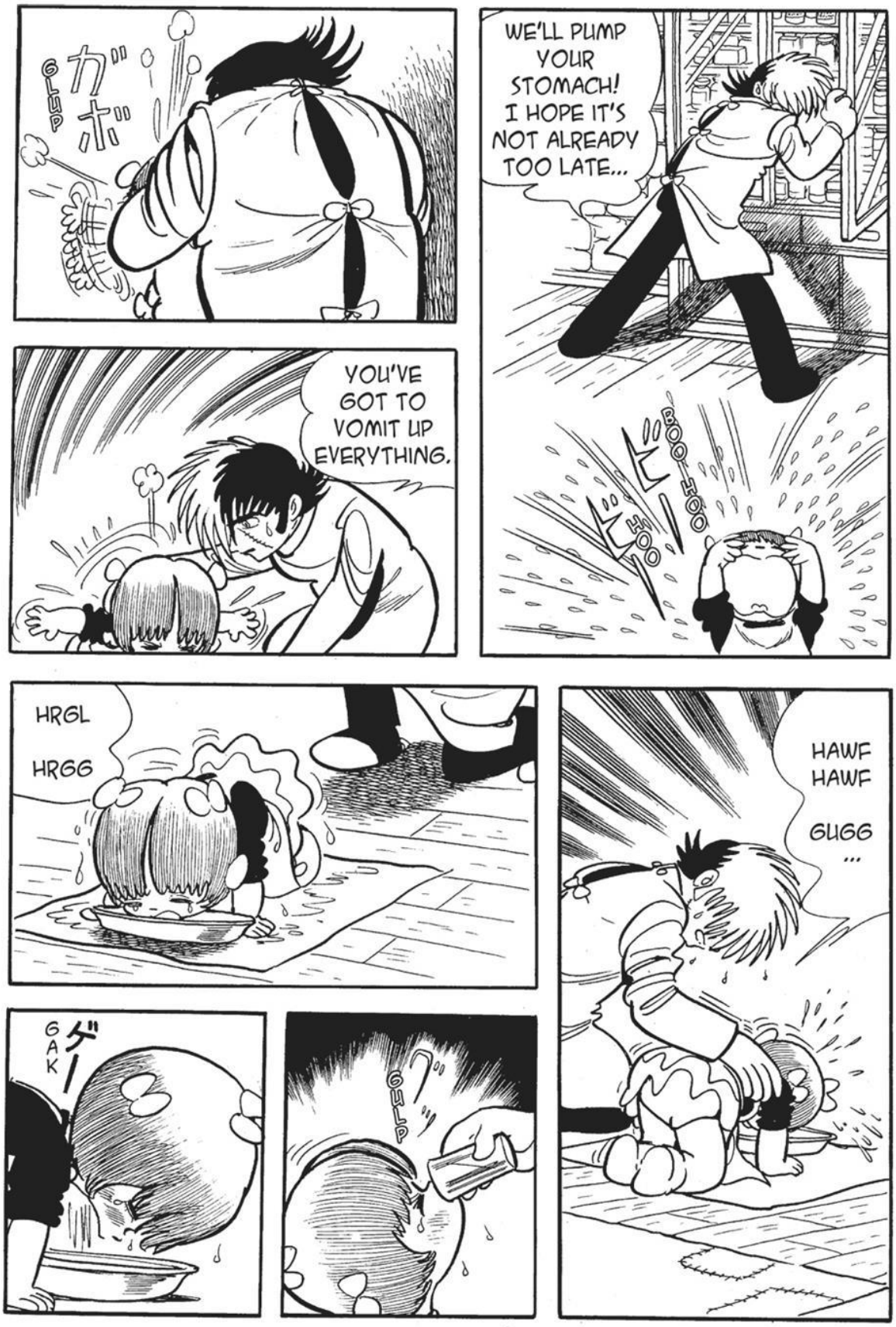

YOU WHAT?!
YESH, I TOOK IT.

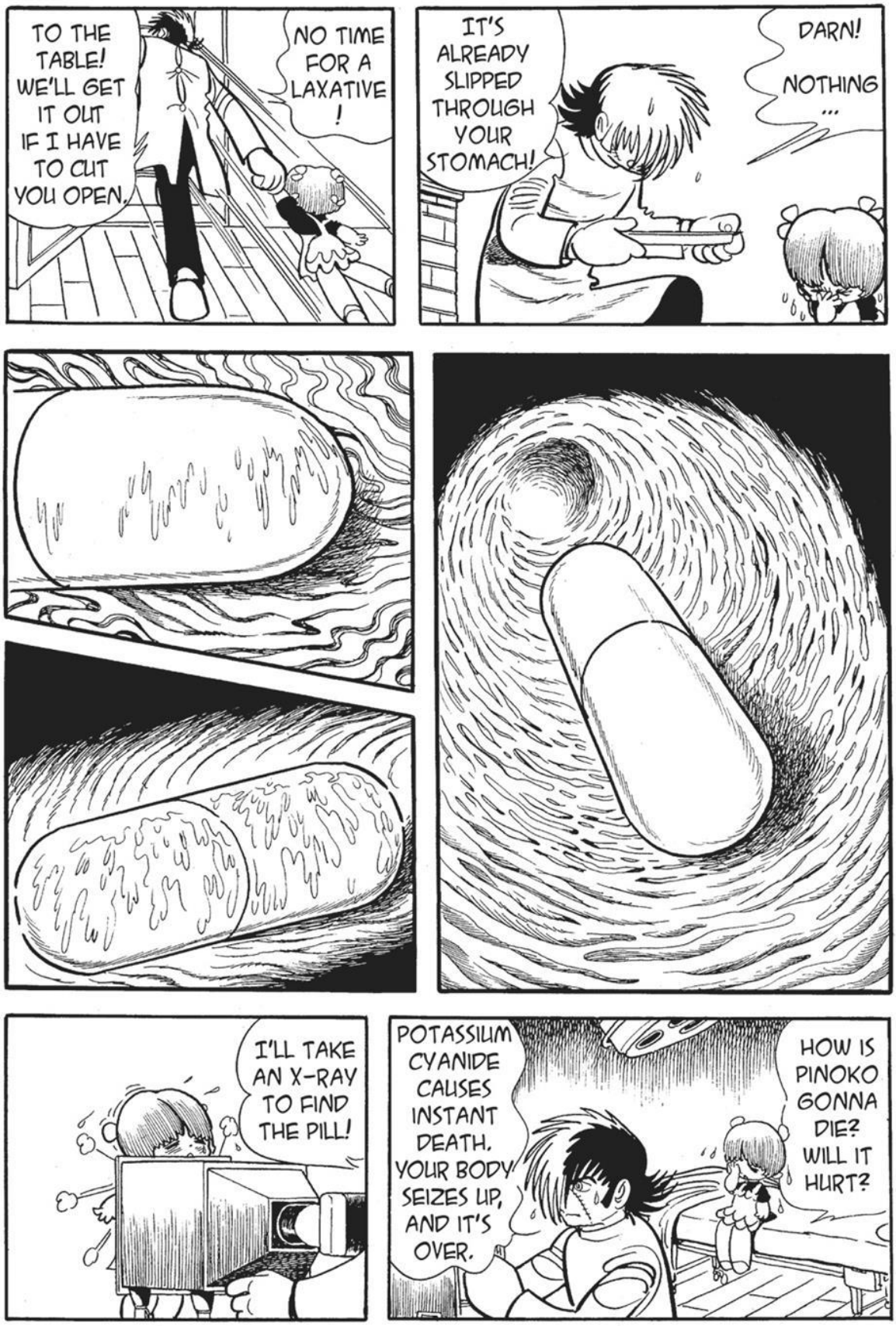
SO YOU DID OPEN MY BAG?


DID YOU TOUCH THE PILL?

IT WASN'T COLD MEDSHIN ?
FOOL!! WHY ON EARTH DID YOU DO THAT?!
POTASSIUM CYANIDE !
IT WAS LETHAL POISON !
I TOOK IT AWAY FROM A PATIENT WHO TRIED TO KILL HIMSELF!
THEN ITS CONTENTS SPILL OUT AND YOU DIE INSTANTLY !!
THE CAPSULE MELTS ONE HOUR AFTER YOU SWALLOW IT!!


HOW LONG AGO DID YOU TAKE IT ?
PINOKO'S GONNA DIE?
YOU'RE GOING TO DIE IN THIRTY MINUTES !!
PINOKO!! YOU DON'T GET IT, DO YOU?
BEFORE COOKING SHUPPER, 'BOUT HALF AN HOUR AGO?
WAAAA
WAAAH


GLUP
カポ
WE'LL PUMP YOUR STOMACH! I HOPE IT'S NOT ALREADY TOO LATE...
BOO-HOO
HOO
YOU'VE GOT TO VOMIT UP EVERYTHING.
HRGL
HRGG
HAWF HAWF
GUGG ...
GAK
ゲー
GULP

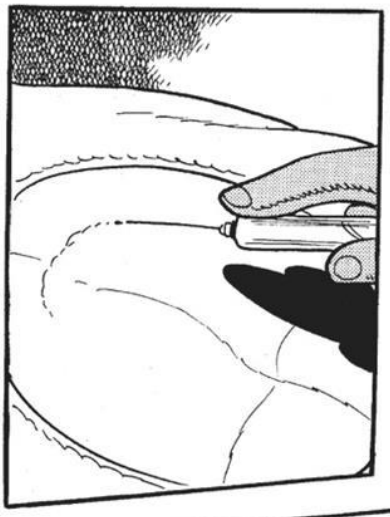

TO THE TABLE! WE'LL GET IT OUT IF I HAVE TO CUT YOU OPEN.
NO TIME FOR A LAXATIVE!
IT'S ALREADY SLIPPED THROUGH YOUR STOMACH!
DARN! NOTHING ...
I'LL TAKE AN X-RAY TO FIND THE PILL!
POTASSIUM CYANIDE CAUSES INSTANT DEATH. YOUR BODY SEIZES UP, AND IT'S OVER.
HOW IS PINOKO GONNA DIE? WILL IT HURT?

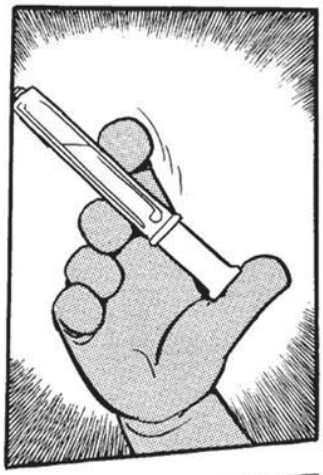
HEEEE
HEEEE

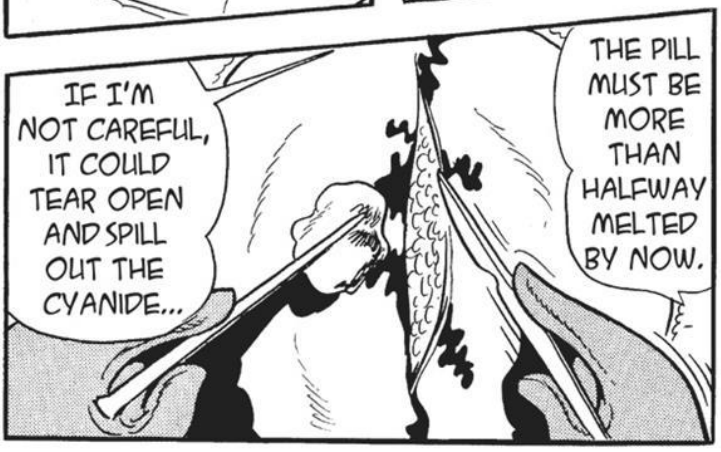
TWENTY MORE MINUTES AT MOST ...

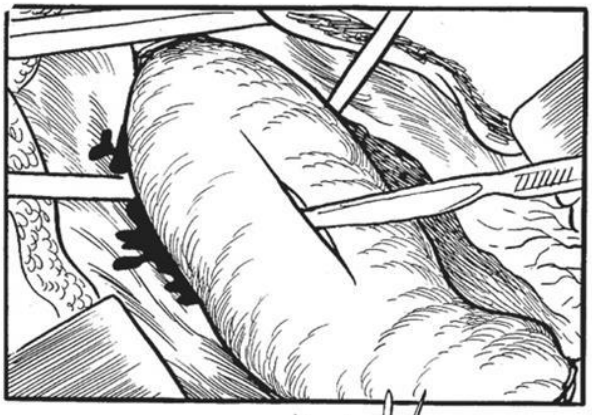
I'LL HAVE IT OUT IN FIVE MINUTES, PINOKO.

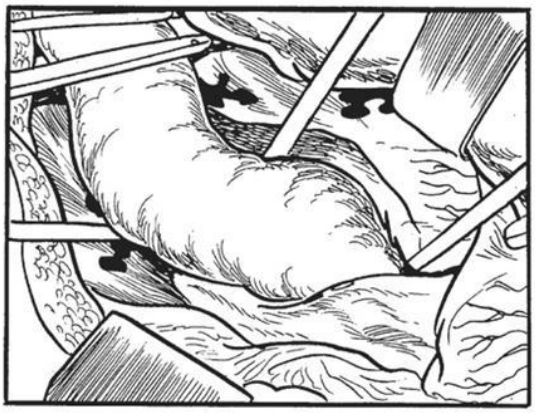
OKAY, THAT MUST BE IT!
A FOREIGN OBJECT AT THE END OF THE DUODENUM!






IF I'M NOT CAREFUL, IT COULD TEAR OPEN AND SPILL OUT THE CYANIDE...
THE PILL MUST BE MORE THAN HALFWAY MELTED BY NOW.

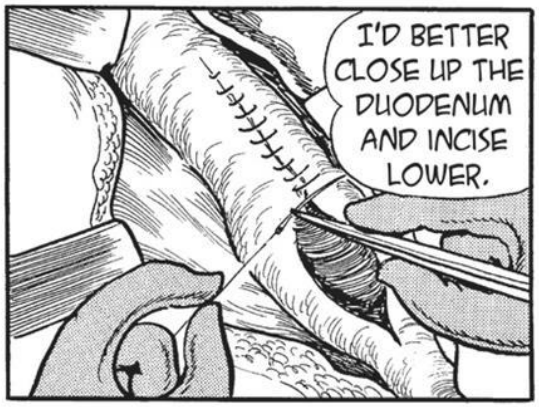




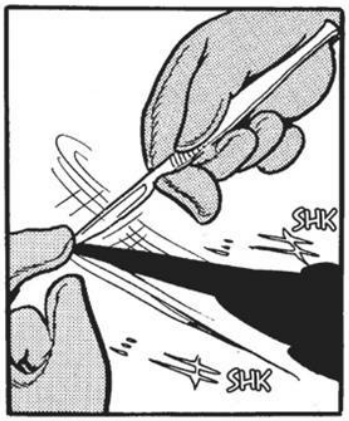
PERISTALSIS MUST HAVE CAUSED IT TO MOVE!
IT'S NOT HERE ?!

NOT HERE !

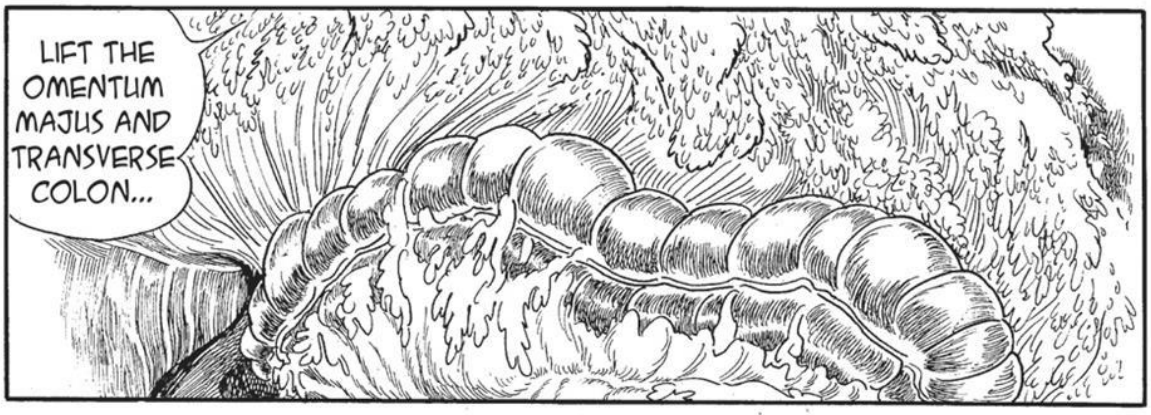
NOT HERE ...

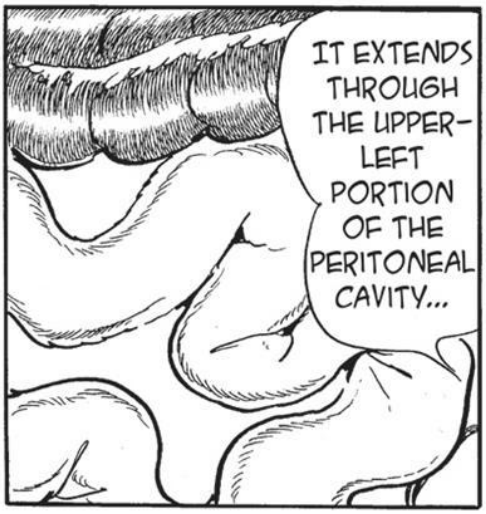

I'D BETTER CLOSE UP THE DUODENUM AND INCISE LOWER.

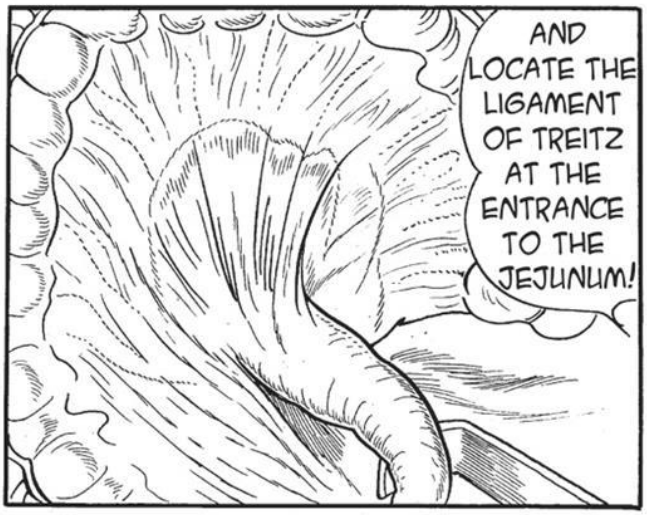
IT MUST BE IN THE SMALL INTESTINE ...
THIS ISN'T LIKE ME. I'VE GOTTA CALM DOWN, RELAX.

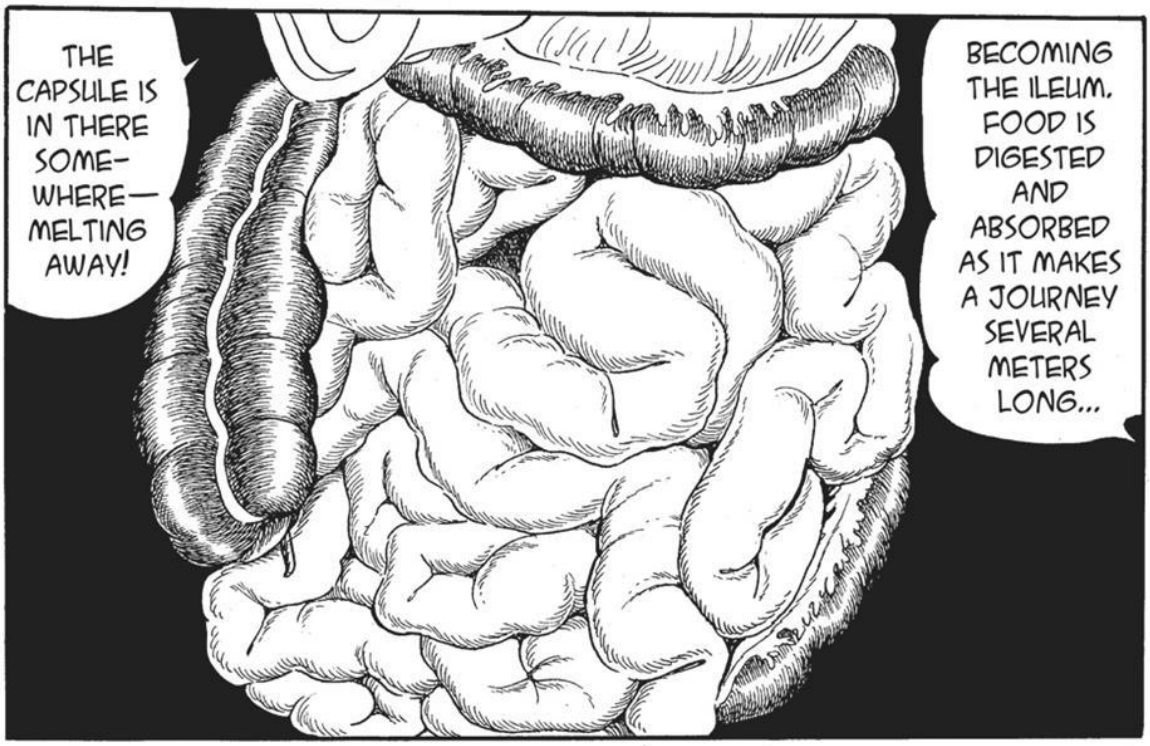

SHK
SHK

I'VE ONLY MADE SUCH AN AMATEURISH BLUNDER A FEW TIMES IN MY CAREER...


LIFT THE OMENTUM MAJUS AND TRANSVERSE COLON...


IT EXTENDS THROUGH THE UPPER-LEFT PORTION OF THE PERITONEAL CAVITY...

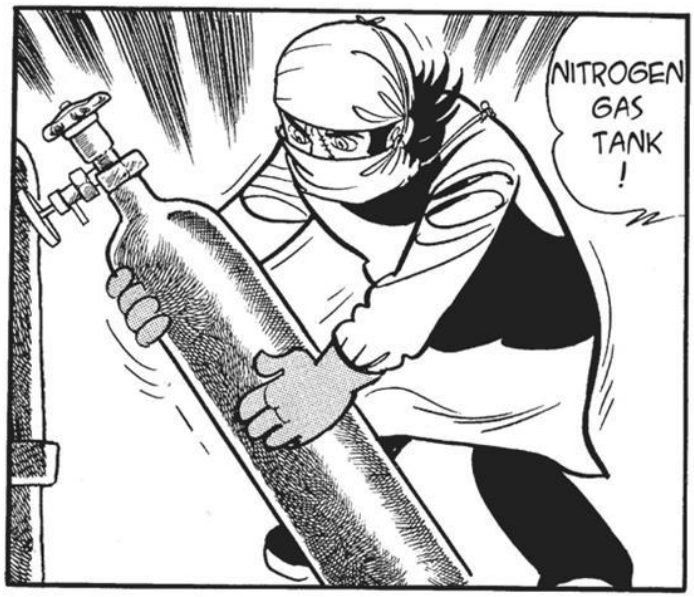

AND LOCATE THE LIGAMENT OF TREITZ AT THE ENTRANCE TO THE JEJUNUM!

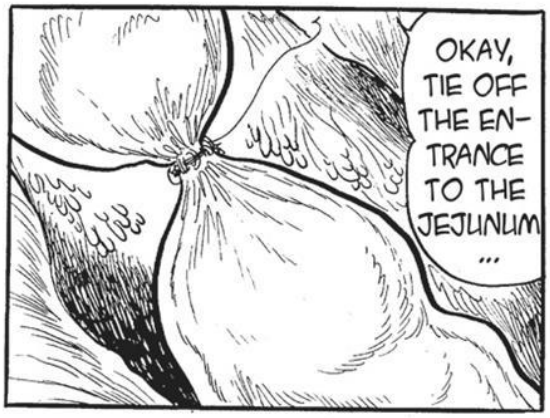

THE CAPSULE IS IN THERE SOME-WHERE— MELTING AWAY!
BECOMING THE ILEUM. FOOD IS DIGESTED AND ABSORBED AS IT MAKES A JOURNEY SEVERAL METERS LONG...

WHAT, AM I STUMPED?! THE FAMOUS BLACK JACK ?!
WHERE DO I CUT? HOW CAN I GET TO THE SPOT WHERE THE CAPSULE IS?
WAIT, WAIT... CALM DOWN NOW.
ONLY A DOZEN MINUTES LEFT.
NO... MAYBE LESS THAN TEN.
THE PILL DIDN'T SHOW.
THE OBJECTS IN THIS X-RAY AREN'T IT.

THERE HAS TO BE ANOTHER WAY, A MORE CERTAIN WAY...
MUST I JUST CONTINUE DIGGING, LIKE FOR CLAMS AT THE BEACH? NO, NO!
DON'T DIE, PINOKO ...
I'LL SAVE YOU SOMEHOW!
YES! I'D JUST HAVE TO WAIT FOR IT TO ARRIVE AND REMOVE IT THERE!
WHAT IF I PROPEL THE CAPSULE TO A SPECIFIC SPOT?
I HAVE TO GIVE IT A TRY. THE LOGIC WORKS.

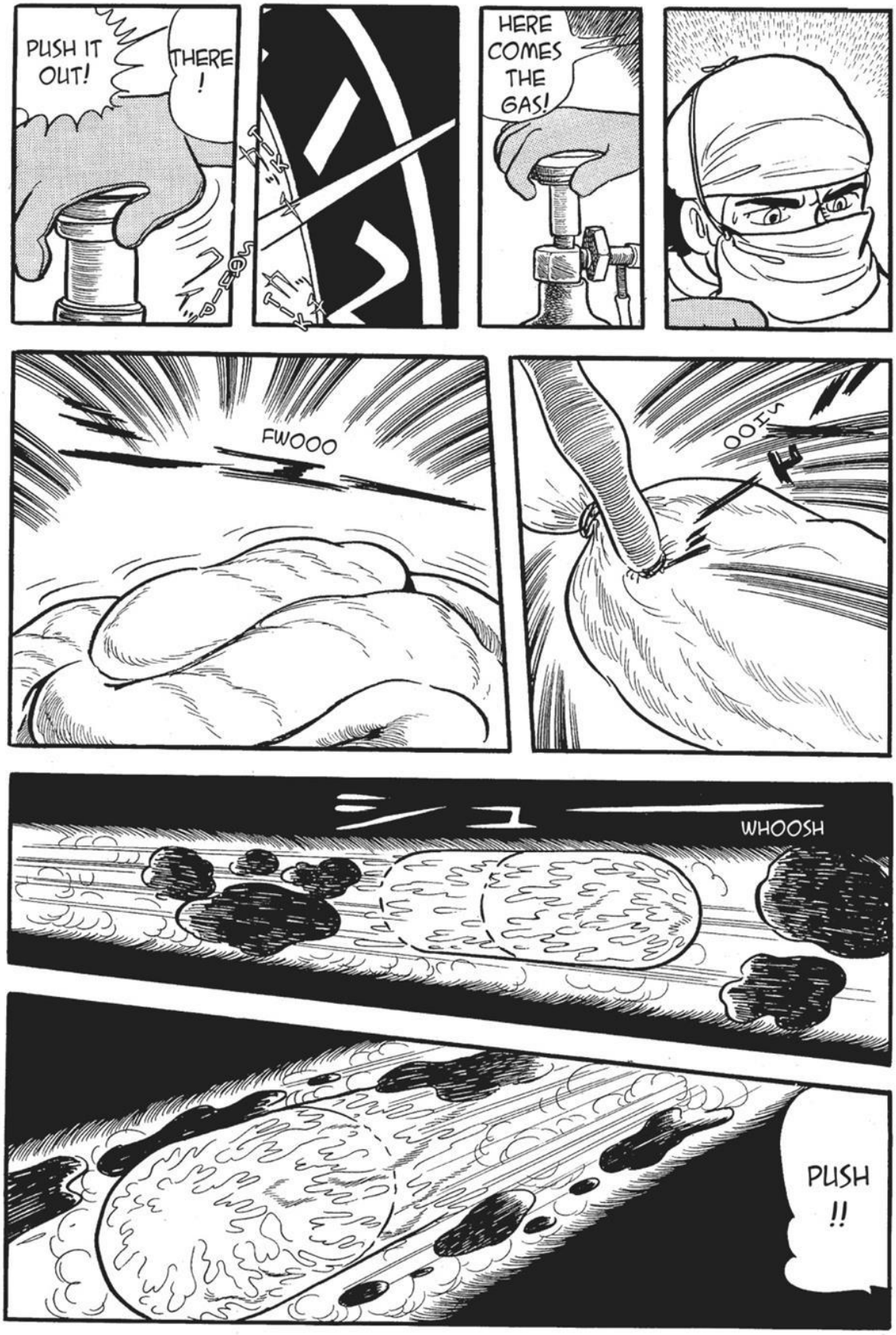
カチッ
カチッ
カチッ


NITROGEN GAS TANK !

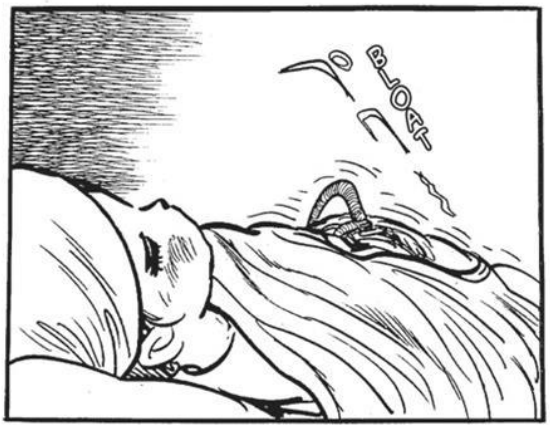

OKAY, TIE OFF THE EN-TRANCE TO THE JEJUNUM ...

JUST BELOW THE LIGATURE !

AND INSERT TUBE FROM TANK

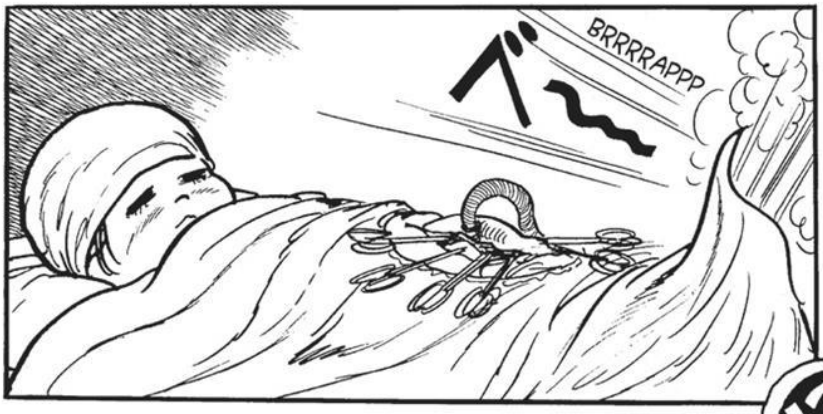

PUSH IT OUT!
THERE !
HERE COMES THE GAS!
FWOOO
OOFS
WHOOSH
PUSH !!

POOT


BLOPP

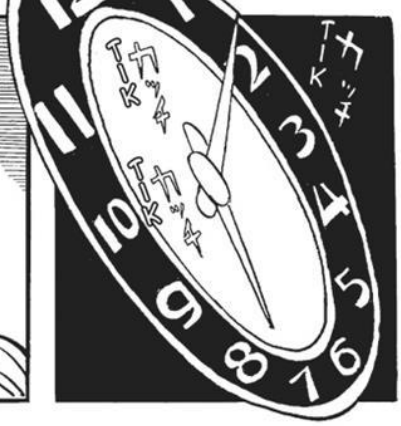
ブス
BRAAAPPP

IT'S REACHED HER ANUS.


ベ
BRRRRAPPP

UPPING PRES-SURE!

IF THIS DOESN'T WORK, PINOKO DIES...
IT'S ALL OR NOTHING.


TIK
TIK
TIK
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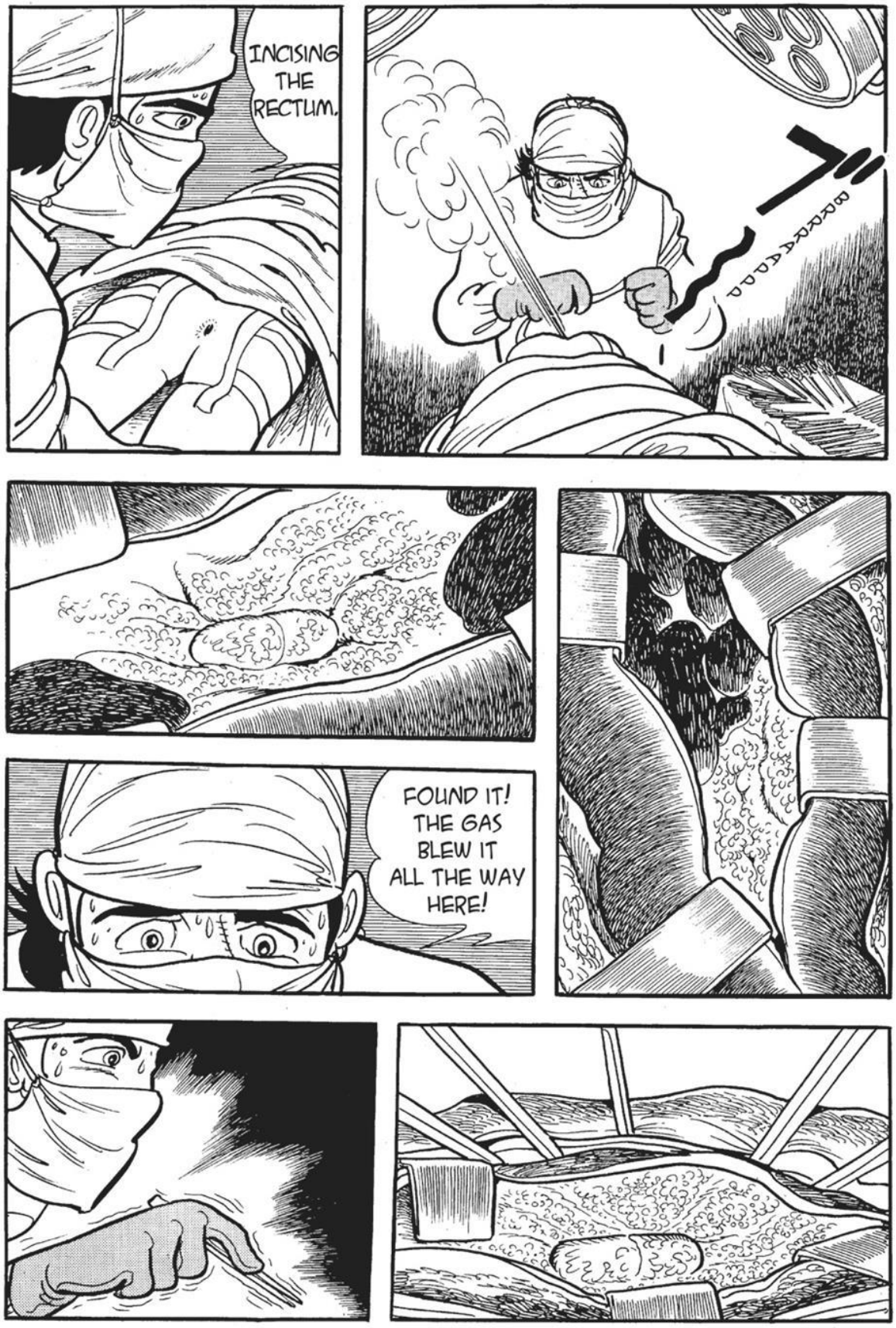
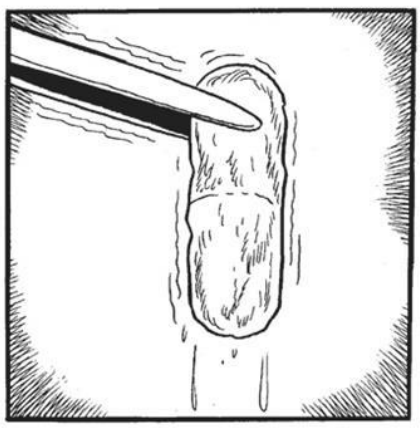
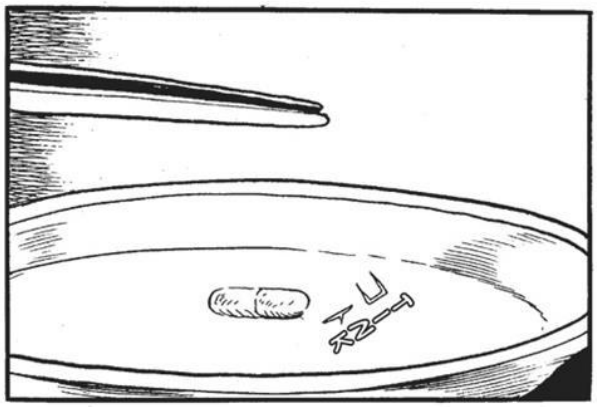
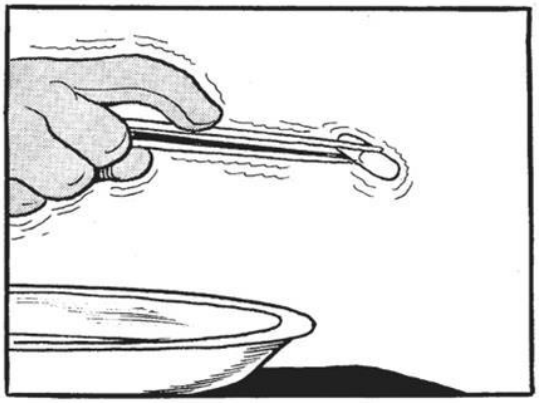

INCISING THE RECTUM.
FOUND IT! THE GAS BLEW IT ALL THE WAY HERE!



CARE-
FUL
...

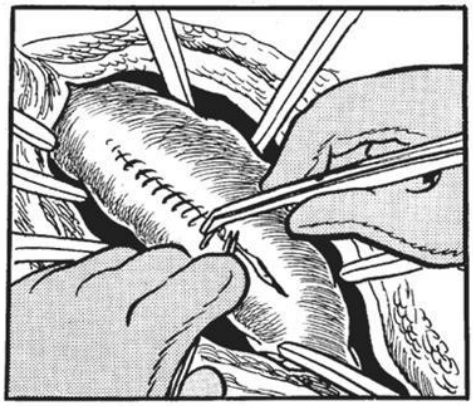
RELAX...
THE CAPSULE'S
BARELY INTACT.
CAREFUL
NOW...





OHH
!

ボロリ
SPILL



POOT!

I MADE YOU SOME PORRIDGE.

I DON'T WANNA FART ANYMORE!
HOW DID PINOKO GET SHO MANY FARTS?
POOK

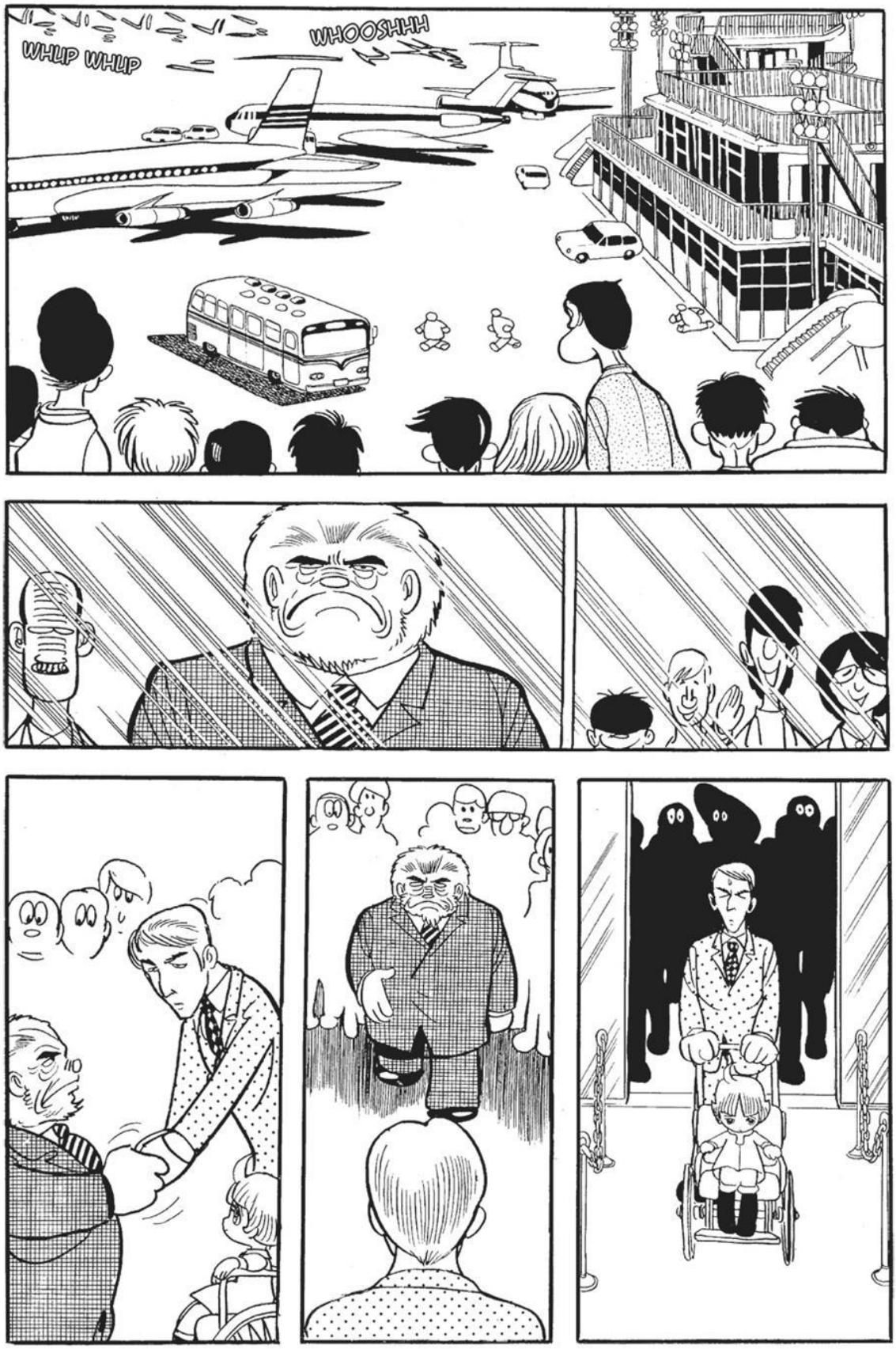
POOT
YOU'LL BE BACK ON YOUR FEET IN A WEEK. TAKE IT NICE AND EASY NOW.

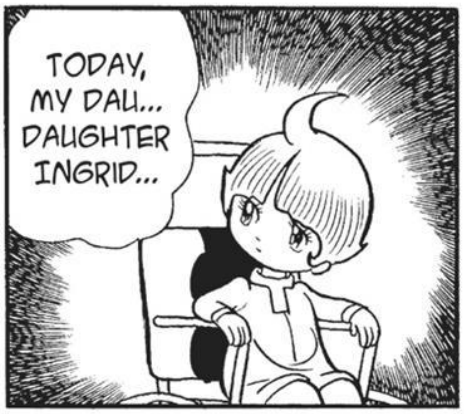
YOU'RE JUST MAKING IT WORSE BY CRYING.
POOT!!

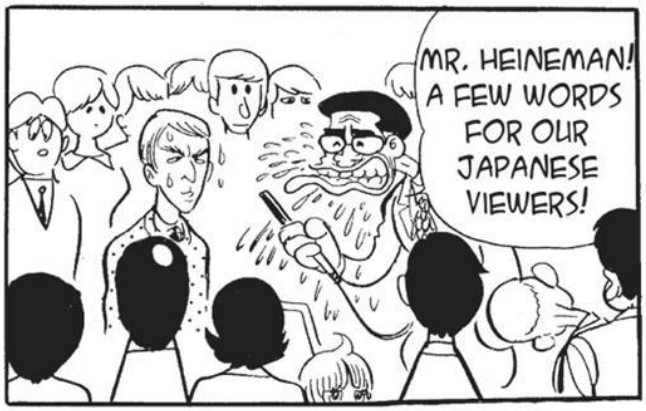
IT SAVED YOUR LIFE.
THERE'S STILL GAS IN YOUR INTESTINES. YOU'LL HAVE TO PUT UP WITH IT FOR A WHILE.

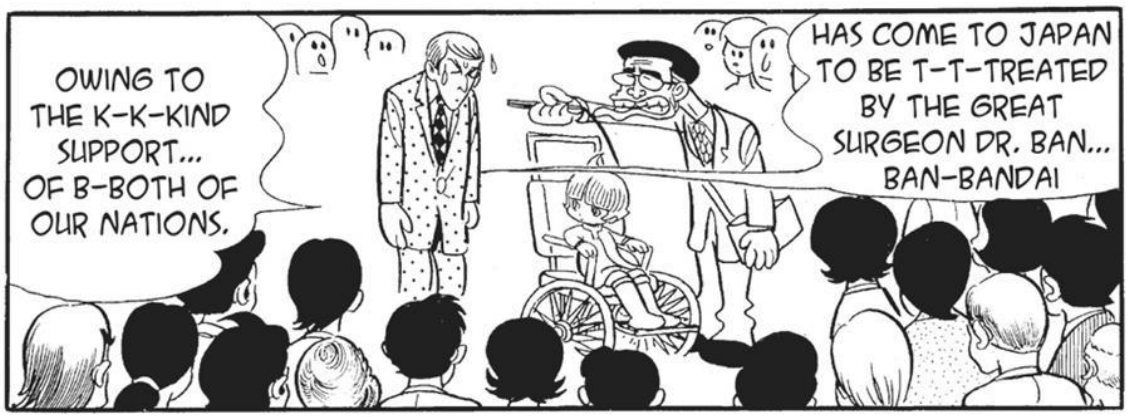
NO ONE WILL MAWWY ME!!
BOO HOO HOO
BUT PINOKO'S A LAY-DEE! I CAN'T GO OUTSHIDE IF I FART ALL THE TIME!
BOO HOO HOO

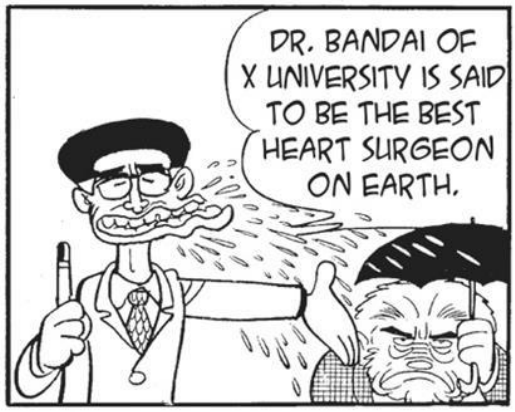
FROM AFAR

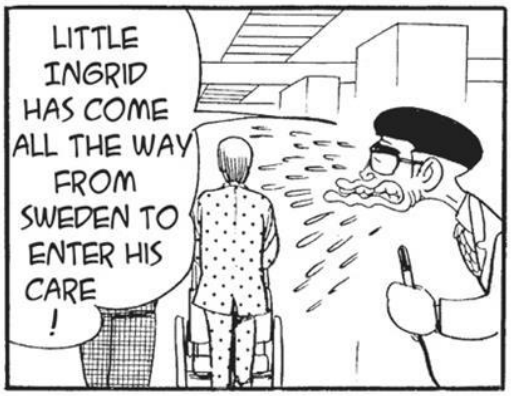

WHUP WHUP
WHOOSHHH


TODAY, MY DAU... DAUGHTER INGRID...


MR. HEINEMAN! A FEW WORDS FOR OUR JAPANESE VIEWERS!

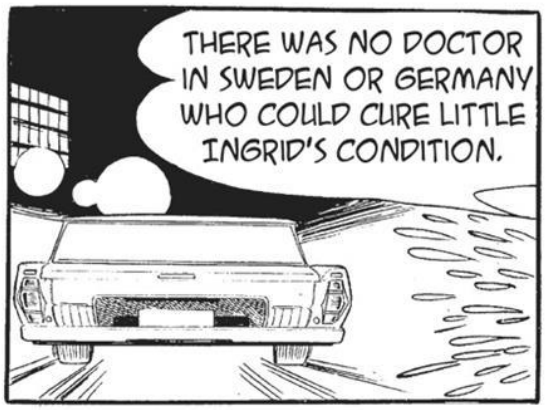

OWING TO THE K-K-KIND SUPPORT... OF B-BOTH OF OUR NATIONS.
HAS COME TO JAPAN TO BE T-T-TREATED BY THE GREAT SURGEON DR. BAN... BAN-BANDAI

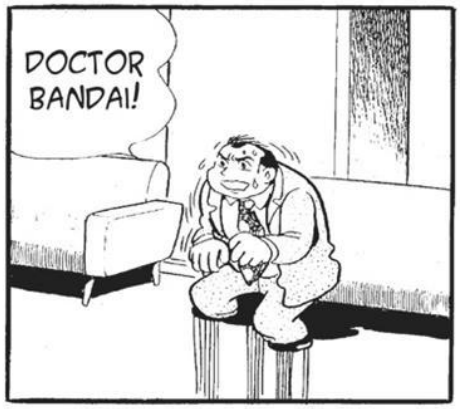

DR. BANDAI OF X UNIVERSITY IS SAID TO BE THE BEST HEART SURGEON ON EARTH.


LITTLE INGRID HAS COME ALL THE WAY FROM SWEDEN TO ENTER HIS CARE !

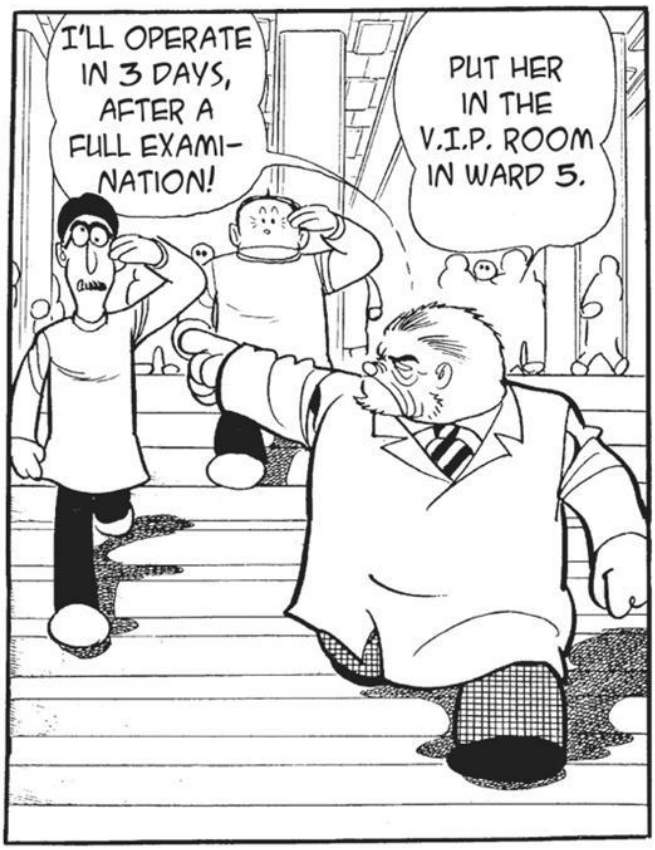
HA-PPY BIRTH-DAY TO YOU~!
SHUT UP!
THANK YOU...
THANK YOU VERY MUCH...
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP

DEAR VIEWERS! LE-LET'S PRAY FOR INGRID'S RECOVERY!


THERE WAS NO DOCTOR IN SWEDEN OR GERMANY WHO COULD CURE LITTLE INGRID'S CONDITION.


DOCTOR BANDAI!

GLARE

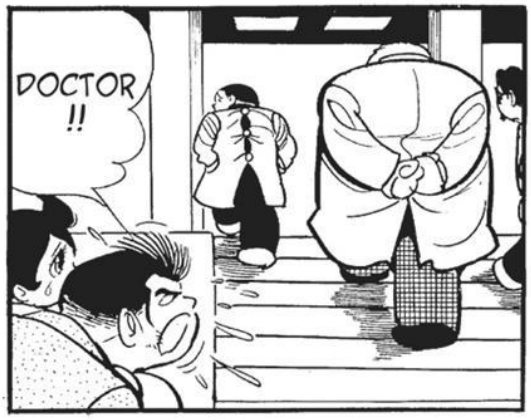

I'LL OPERATE IN 3 DAYS, AFTER A FULL EXAMI-NATION!
PUT HER IN THE V.I.P. ROOM IN WARD 5.

PLEASE TREAT MY DAUGHTER, DR. BANDAI.

PLEASE, SAVE MY DAUGHTER TOO!
WE CAME ALL THE WAY FROM KYUSHU FOR YOUR HELP.
DOCTOR, MY DAUGHTER WILL DIE WITHOUT TREATMENT.
I HEAR THAT LITTLE GIRL FROM OVERSEAS HAS THE SAME CONDITION AS MY DAUGHTER.
I'M BEGGIN', DOCTOR!
PLEASE
PLEASE!
SORRY, BUT IT'S NO USE OPE-RATING.
YOUR DAUGHTER'S CASE IS... SEVERE.
MR. YAMADA? DON'T DO THIS TO ME.

YOU CAN CURE THE LIL' FOREIGN GIRL, CAN'T YOU?

BUT I CAN'T GIVE UP! I JUS' CAN'T !
I TOLD YOU SO YESTERDAY ...

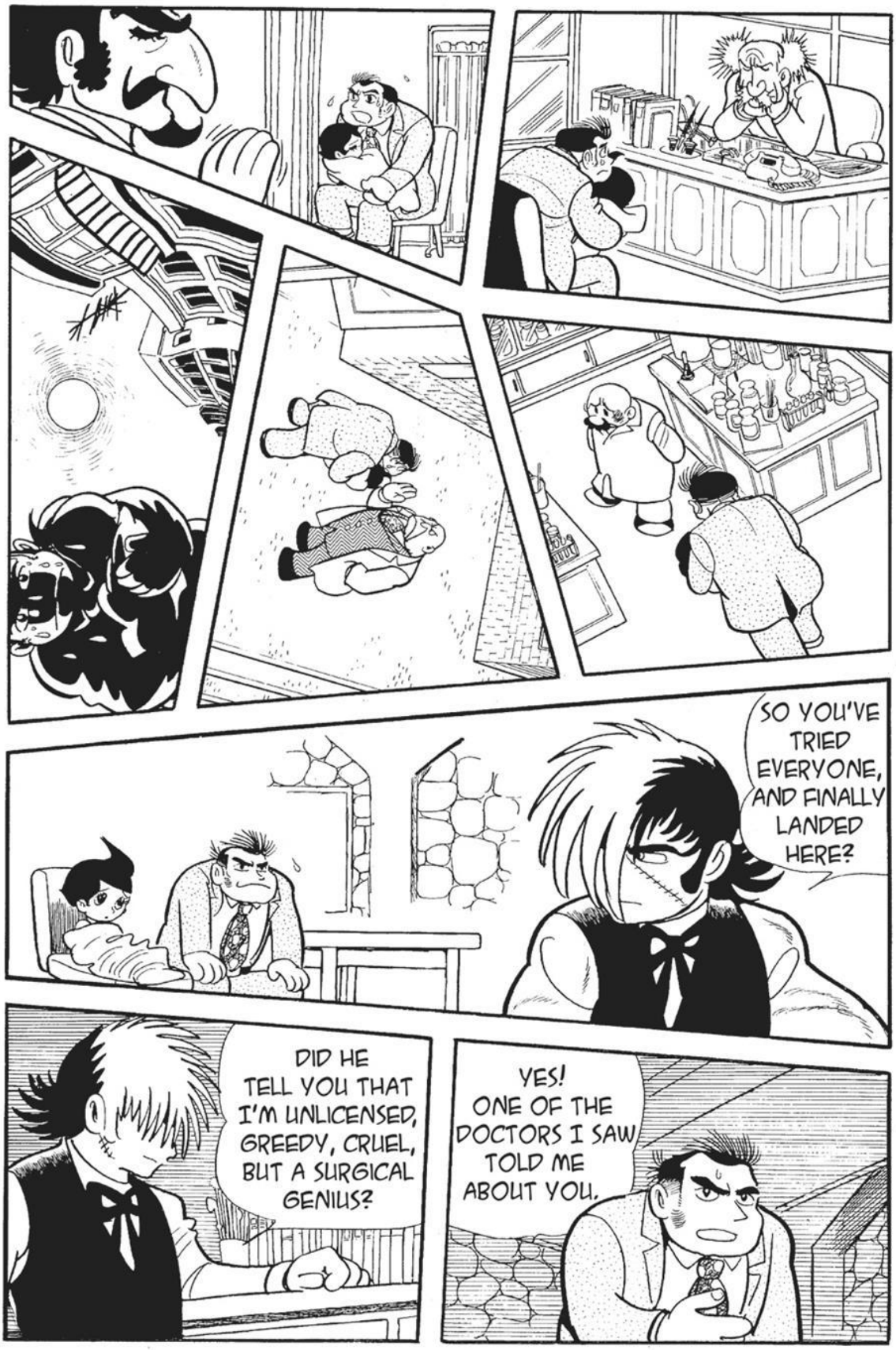

DOCTOR !!

INGRID'S CONDITION ISN'T AS SEVERE AS YOUR DAUGHTER'S !
YOU AREN'T LISTENING ...

ARE YOU SUGGESTING THAT I ABANDON INGRID TO TREAT HIS DAUGHTER?

SO SAD... HE'S POURED EVERYTHING HE HAS INTO SAVING HIS DAUGHTER ...
HE'S BEEN SITTING IN THE LOBBY FOR FOUR DAYS.

RIGHT NOW, THE WORLD'S EYES ARE ON INGRID AND ME!
INGRID CAME ALL THE WAY FROM SWEDEN TO SEE ME!
THIS IS MY CHANCE TO BECOME TRULY FAMOUS.
I FEEL FOR MR. YAMADA, BUT HE HAS TO GO.
YOU'D HAVE ME SACRIFICE HER FOR SOME NOBODY ?
WHAT?!
...

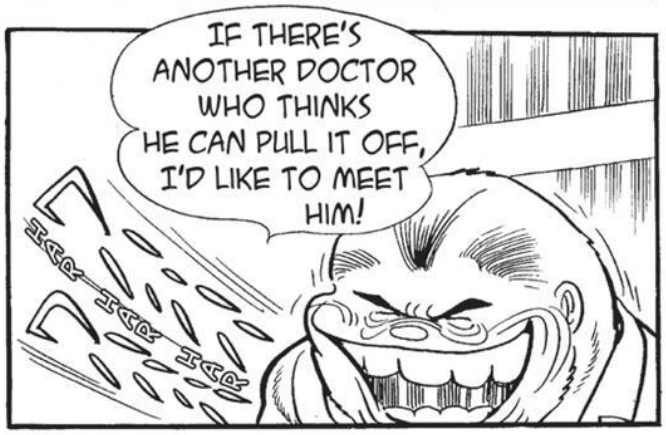

SO YOU'VE TRIED EVERYONE, AND FINALLY LANDED HERE?
DID HE TELL YOU THAT I'M UNLICENSED, GREEDY, CRUEL, BUT A SURGICAL GENIUS?
YES! ONE OF THE DOCTORS I SAW TOLD ME ABOUT YOU.

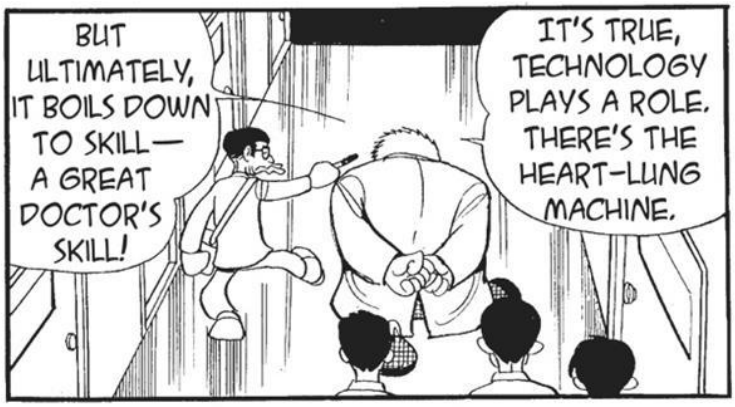
HUH ?
NO THANKS !
ALSO, I'M A CARPENTER. I'LL REMAKE YOUR HOUSE INTO A...
I'LL GIVE YOU EVERY-THING I OWN.
SHE HAS MAYBE A 10% CHANCE OF SURVIVAL.
BESIDES, I'M NOT SURE I COULD SAVE HER.
I'M NOT SO DESPERATE THAT I NEED A CASE THAT OTHERS TURNED DOWN.
DADDY ...
DOCTOR, SHE'LL DIE WITHOUT SURGERY !
...
THE ANSWER IS NO.
STOP THAT. GET UP !
PLEASE, DOCTOR...

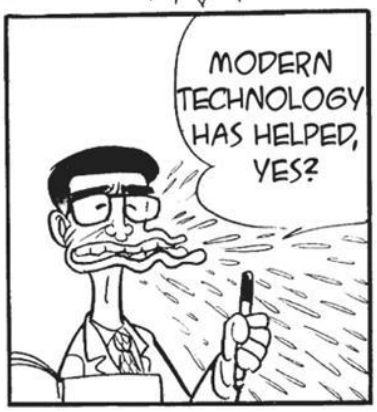
A LOTTA GOOD YA DOCTORS ARE! FORGET IT, THEN!!
YOU BASTARD!

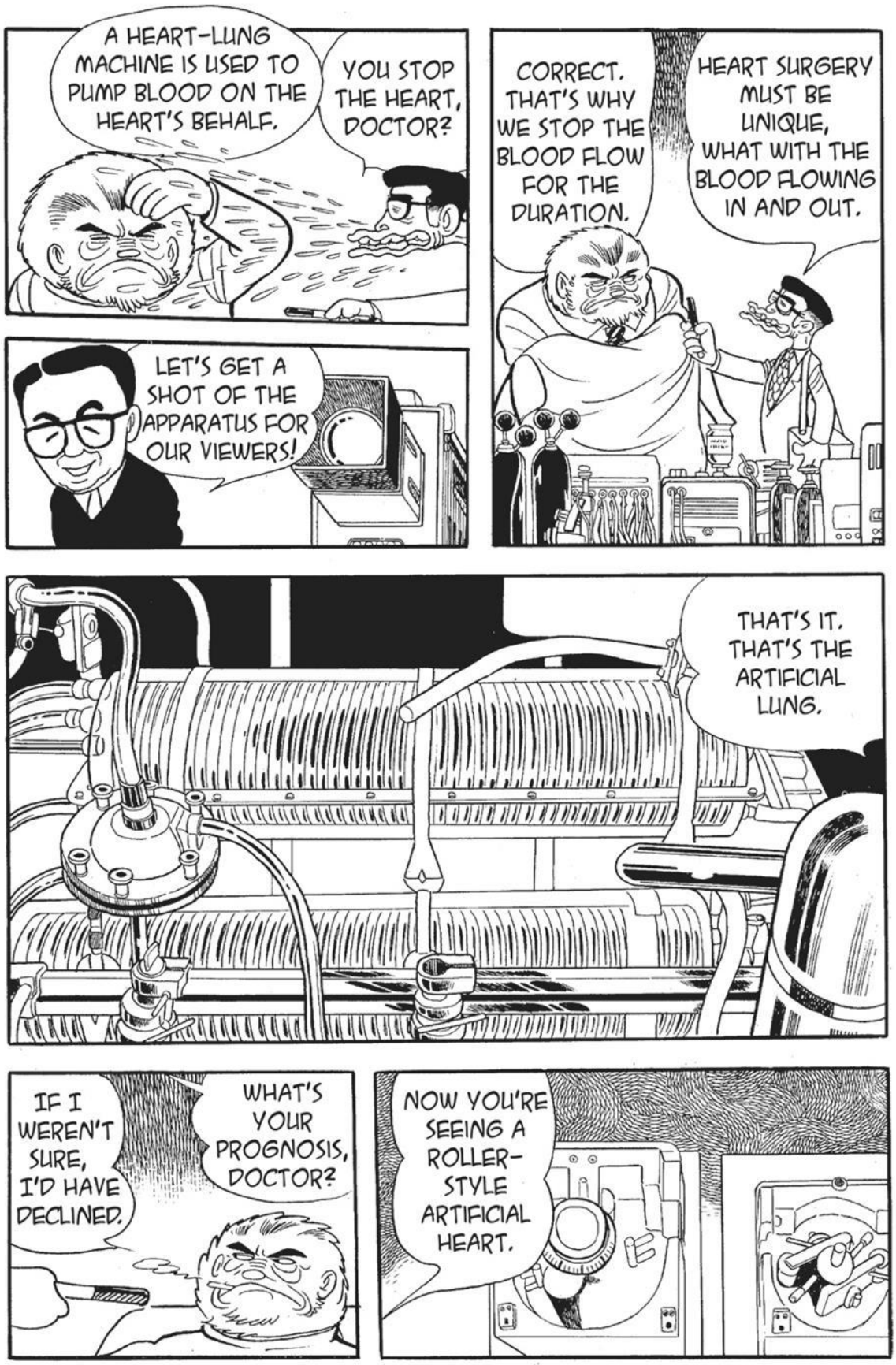
YES. I HAVE PERFORMED THIS OPERATION SUCCESSFULLY 9 TIMES.

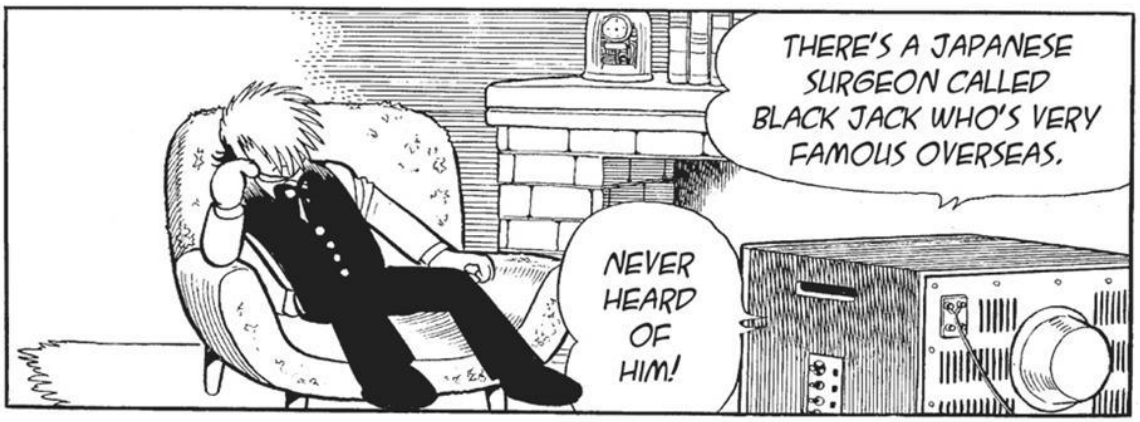
LITTLE INGRID SUFFERS FROM A CONDITION CALLED "CARDIAC SEPTAL DEFECT WITH CALCIFICATION OF THE MITRAL AND AORTIC VALVES," WHICH REQUIRES EXTREMELY DIFFICULT SURGERY.
QUIT SPITTING, THIS IS A HOSPITAL!


IF THERE'S ANOTHER DOCTOR WHO THINKS HE CAN PULL IT OFF, I'D LIKE TO MEET HIM!

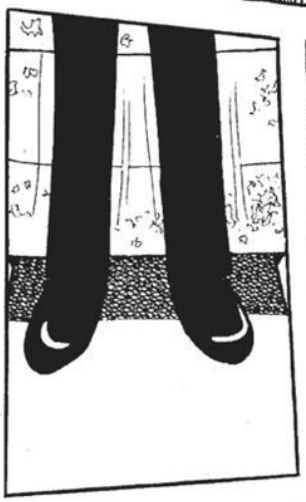

BUT ULTIMATELY, IT BOILS DOWN TO SKILL— A GREAT DOCTOR'S SKILL!
IT'S TRUE, TECHNOLOGY PLAYS A ROLE. THERE'S THE HEART-LUNG MACHINE.


MODERN TECHNOLOGY HAS HELPED, YES?


A HEART-LUNG MACHINE IS USED TO PUMP BLOOD ON THE HEART'S BEHALF.
YOU STOP THE HEART, DOCTOR?
CORRECT. THAT'S WHY WE STOP THE BLOOD FLOW FOR THE DURATION.
HEART SURGERY MUST BE UNIQUE, WHAT WITH THE BLOOD FLOWING IN AND OUT.
LET'S GET A SHOT OF THE APPARATUS FOR OUR VIEWERS!
THAT'S IT. THAT'S THE ARTIFICIAL LUNG.
IF I WEREN'T SURE, I'D HAVE DECLINED.
WHAT'S YOUR PROGNOSIS, DOCTOR?
NOW YOU'RE SEEING A ROLLER-STYLE ARTIFICIAL HEART.

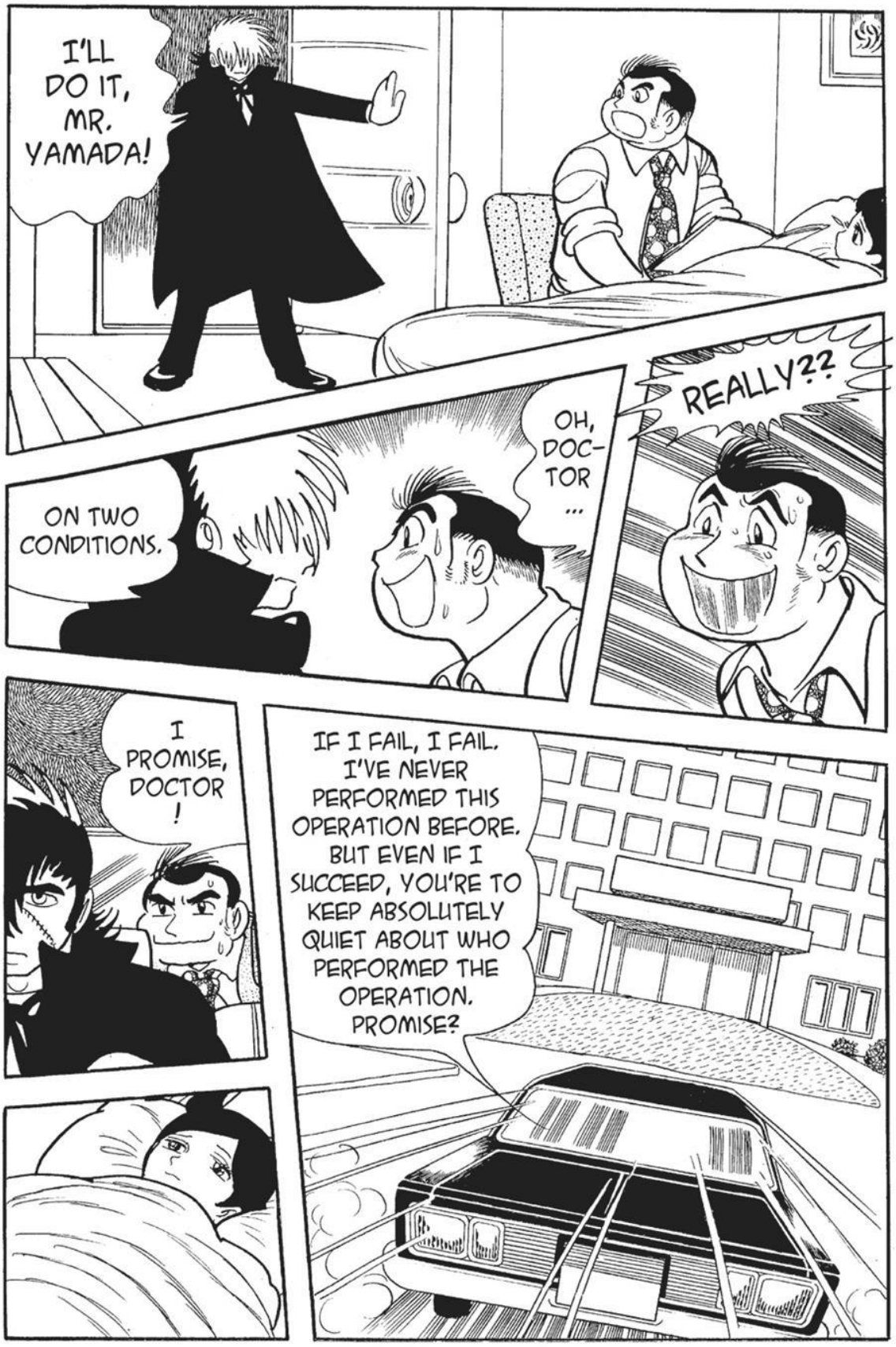

THERE'S A JAPANESE SURGEON CALLED BLACK JACK WHO'S VERY FAMOUS OVERSEAS.
NEVER HEARD OF HIM!

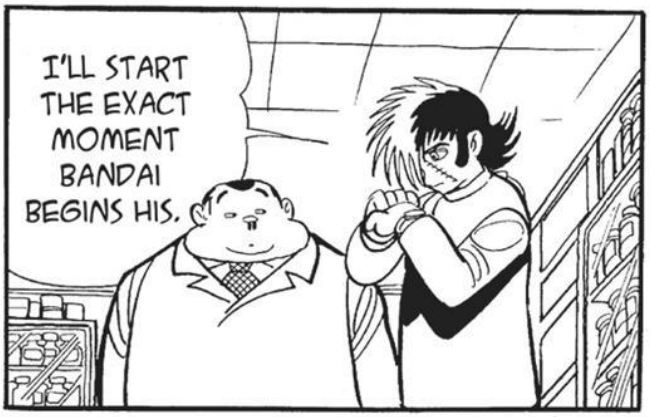
DOCTORS WHO THINK THEY, TOO, CAN PERFORM THIS OPERATION SHOULD THINK AGAIN!



ARE YOU SERIOUS ?

I'LL PAY A MILLION YEN PER HOUR. I'M ASKING AS A FRIEND.
GOT AN O.R. OPEN? AN AIR-TIGHT ONE, IF POSSIBLE. I'LL NEED ASSISTANTS, TOO.


I'LL DO IT, MR. YAMADA!
REALLY??
OH, DOC-TOR ...
ON TWO CONDITIONS.
I PROMISE, DOCTOR!
IF I FAIL, I FAIL. I'VE NEVER PERFORMED THIS OPERATION BEFORE. BUT EVEN IF I SUCCEED, YOU'RE TO KEEP ABSOLUTELY QUIET ABOUT WHO PERFORMED THE OPERATION. PROMISE?


I'LL START THE EXACT MOMENT BANDAI BEGINS HIS.

IT'S ME AGAINST HIM.

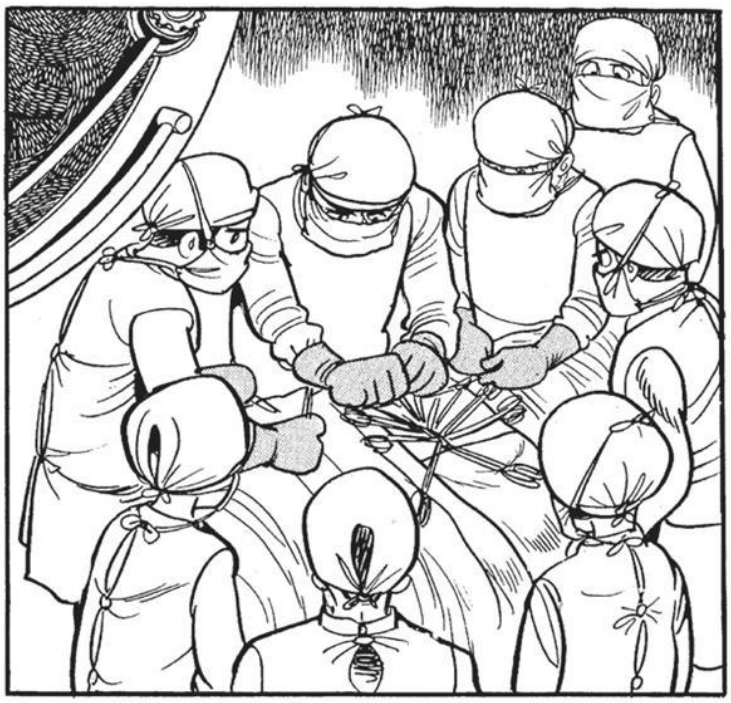
YOU'RE REALLY SOME-THING ELSE.

DON'T GET THE WRONG IDEA, MR. YAMADA. I'M NOT DOING THIS BECAUSE I TOOK PITY. THIS IS A MATTER OF MY PRIDE AS A MAN.

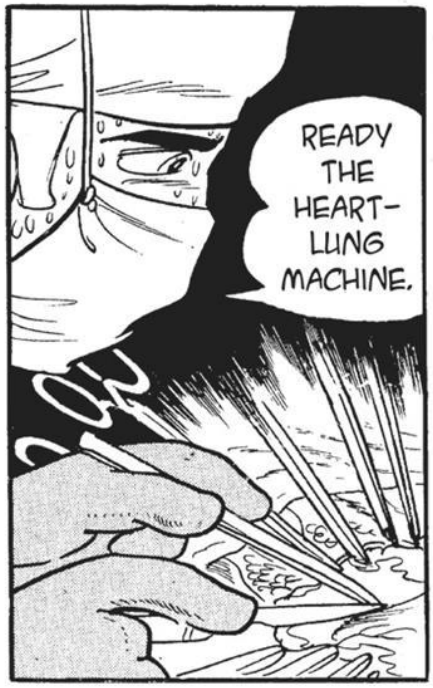
IS THE HEART-LUNG MACHINE READY?

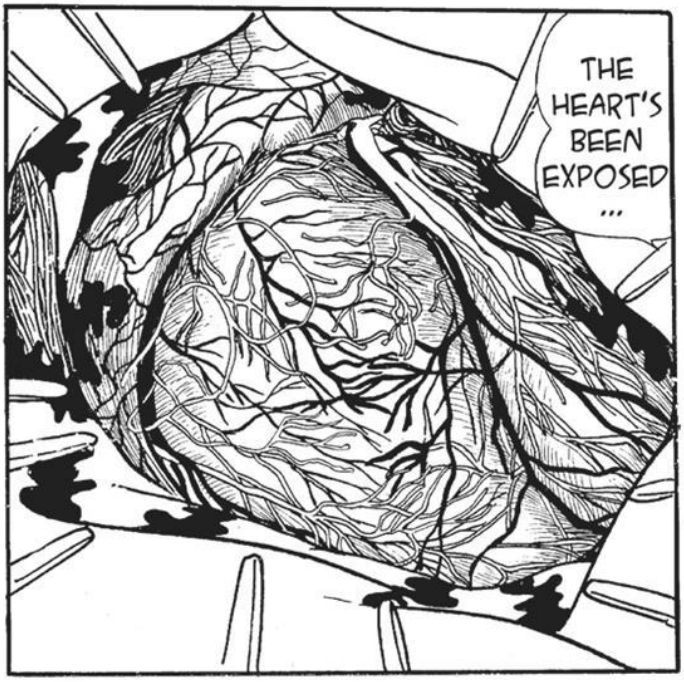
LITTLE INGRID'S OPERATION HAS BEGUN!

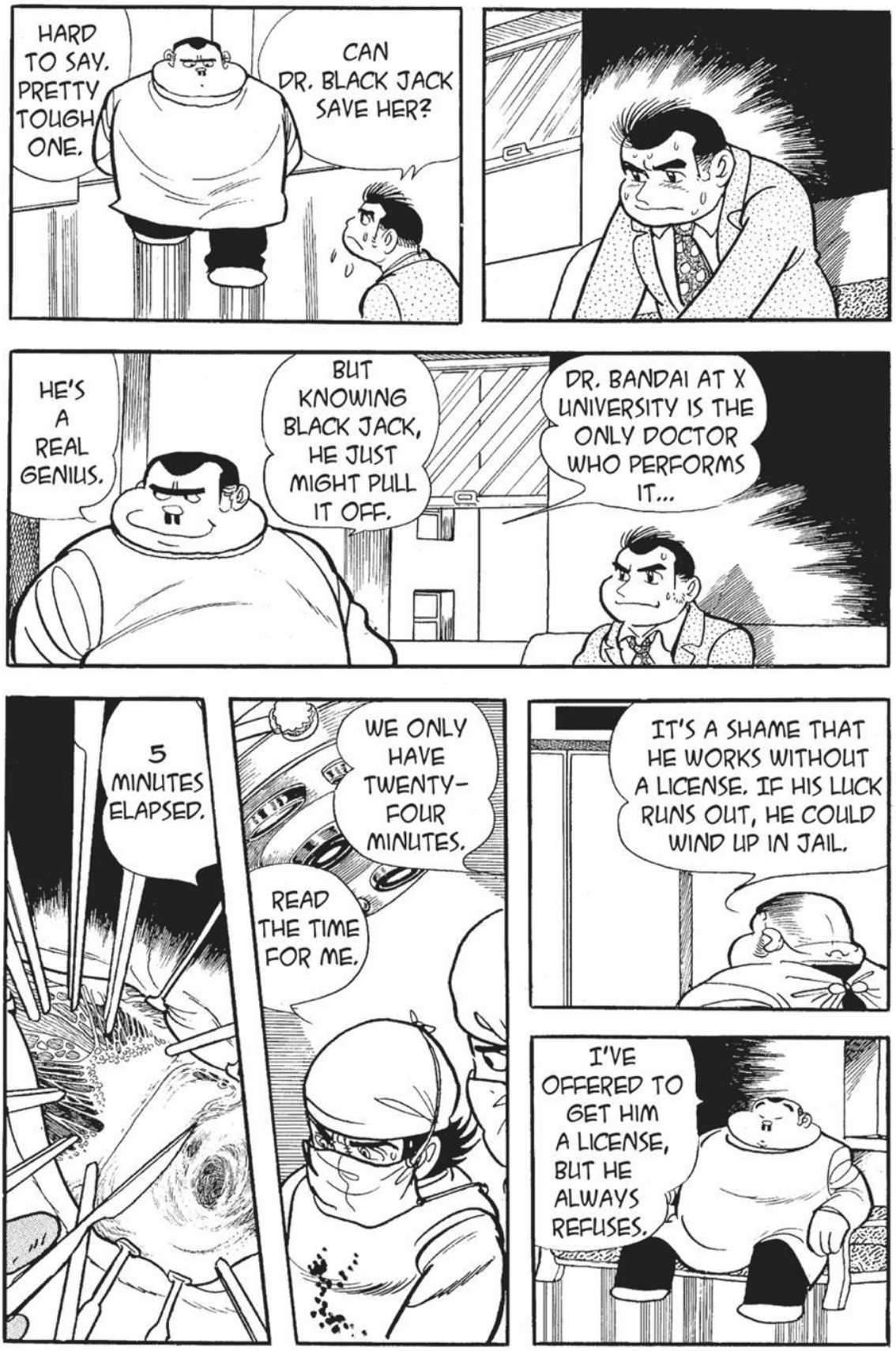
THIS IS REALLY YOUR FIRST TIME?
YEAH, NOT THIS TYPE OF CASE.

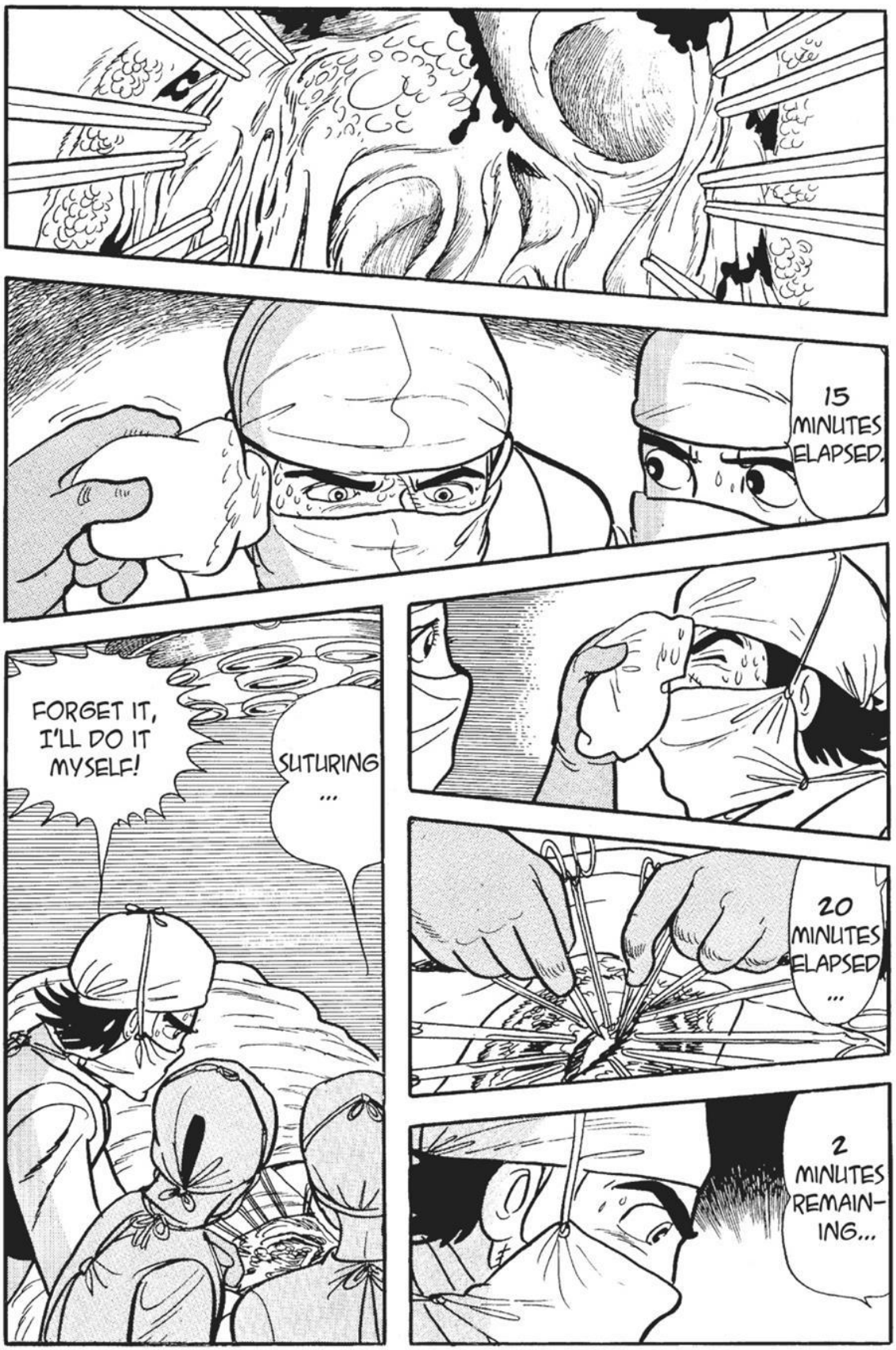


KOCHER...
NO, PÉAN FORCEPS!
I WOULD NEVER HAVE GUESSED.


READY THE HEART-LUNG MACHINE.


THE HEART'S BEEN EXPOSED ...


HARD TO SAY. PRETTY TOUGH ONE.
CAN DR. BLACK JACK SAVE HER?
HE'S A REAL GENIUS.
BUT KNOWING BLACK JACK, HE JUST MIGHT PULL IT OFF.
DR. BANDAI AT X UNIVERSITY IS THE ONLY DOCTOR WHO PERFORMS IT...
5 MINUTES ELAPSED.
WE ONLY HAVE TWENTY-FOUR MINUTES.
READ THE TIME FOR ME.
IT'S A SHAME THAT HE WORKS WITHOUT A LICENSE. IF HIS LUCK RUNS OUT, HE COULD WIND UP IN JAIL.
I'VE OFFERED TO GET HIM A LICENSE, BUT HE ALWAYS REFUSES.


15 MINUTES ELAPSED.
FORGET IT, I'LL DO IT MYSELF!
SUTURING ...
20 MINUTES ELAPSED ...
2 MINUTES REMAIN-ING...

I DID FINISH.
HOW DID IT GO ?
SNORR
WOOOOF
DOC-TOR ?
EVER READ HAMLET? "TO BE OR NOT TO BE..."
CAN'T SAY FOR SURE WHETHER SHE'LL LIVE.
LITTLE INGRID DIES
イングリッドちゃん死ぬ
OPERATION FAILS
手術もかいなく

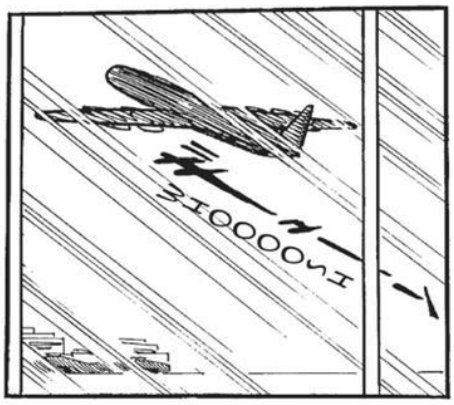
THANK YOU FOR EVERY-THING.

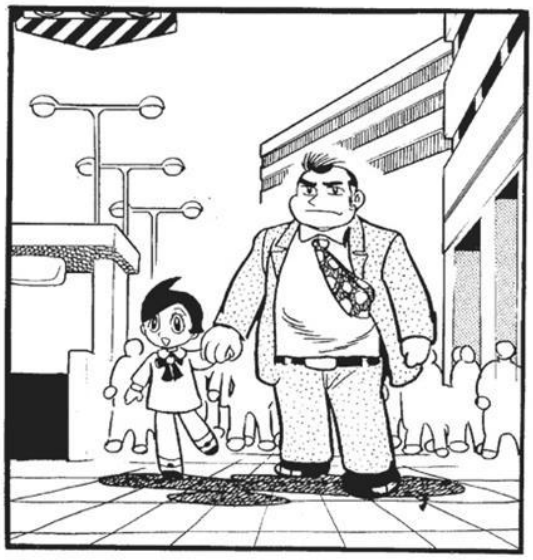
BUT I'M AFRAID IT WAS TOO LATE.
I DID EVERY-THING I COULD

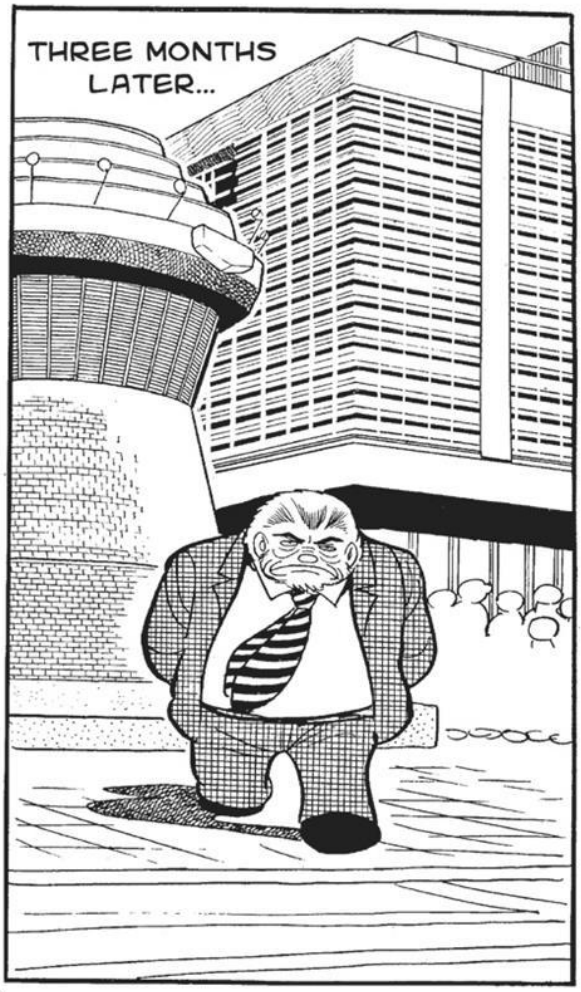
HAVE A SAFE TRIP.
THANK YOU, DOCTOR.

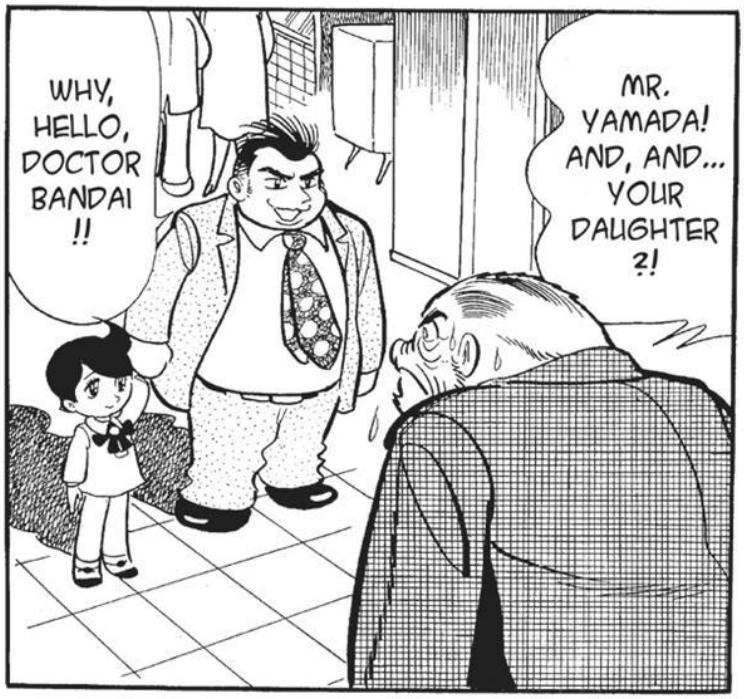
I'M SO SORRY FOR YOUR LOSS.
I AM SURE M-MY DAUGHTER... A-A-APPRECIATES EVERYONE'S EFFORTS ON HER B-BEHALF...

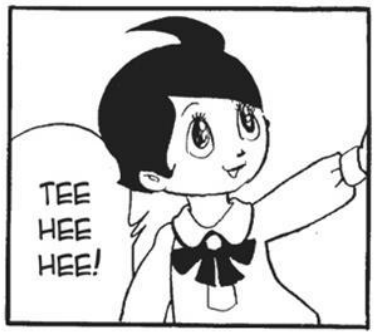
AH, WELL. THESE THINGS HAPPEN.



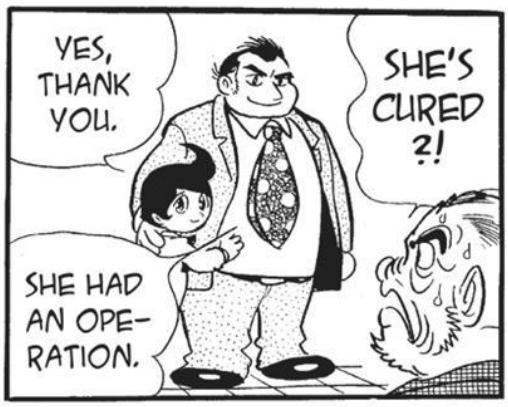



THREE MONTHS LATER...


WHY, HELLO, DOCTOR BANDAI !!
MR. YAMADA! AND, AND... YOUR DAUGHTER ?!


TEE HEE HEE!

'FRAID I CAN'T SAY.
WHO WAS THE SURGEON ?!


YES, THANK YOU.
SHE'S CURED ?!
SHE HAD AN OPE-RATION.

I PROMISED NOT TO TELL.
PLEASE, TELL ME! WHO ON EARTH WAS IT?

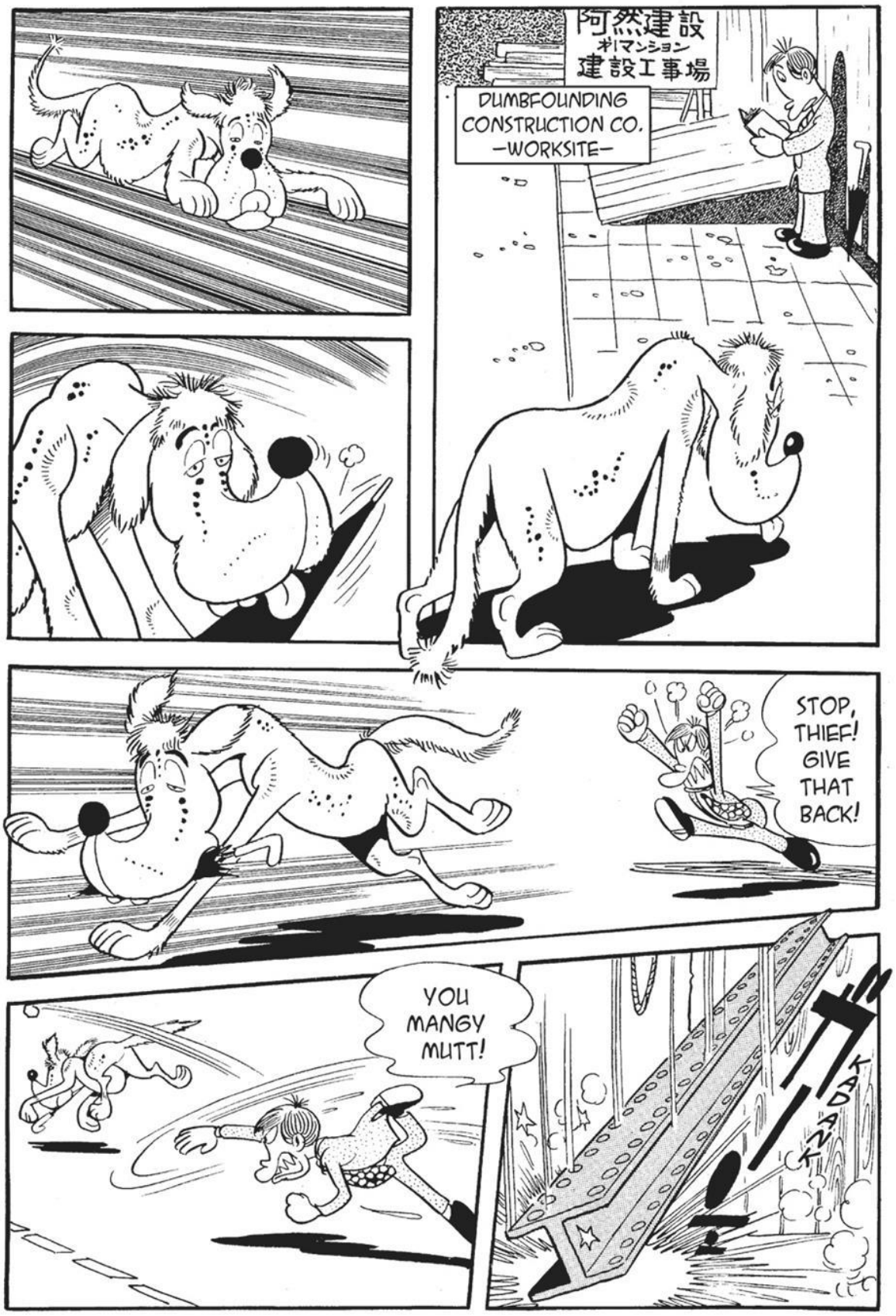
WELL, APPARENTLY NOT.
I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN PERFORM THAT OPERATION!

GROAN

WE'RE GOING BACK TO KYUSHU AFTER WE SEE THE SIGHTS OF TOKYO.
SO LONG !

I-IT CAN'T BE...

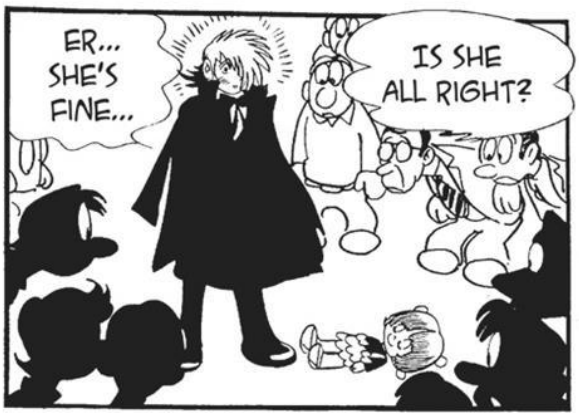
THIEVING DOG


阿然建設
ギ/マンション
建設工事場
DUMBFOUNDING CONSTRUCTION CO.
—WORKSITE—
STOP, THIEF! GIVE THAT BACK!
YOU MANGY MUTT!
KADANK

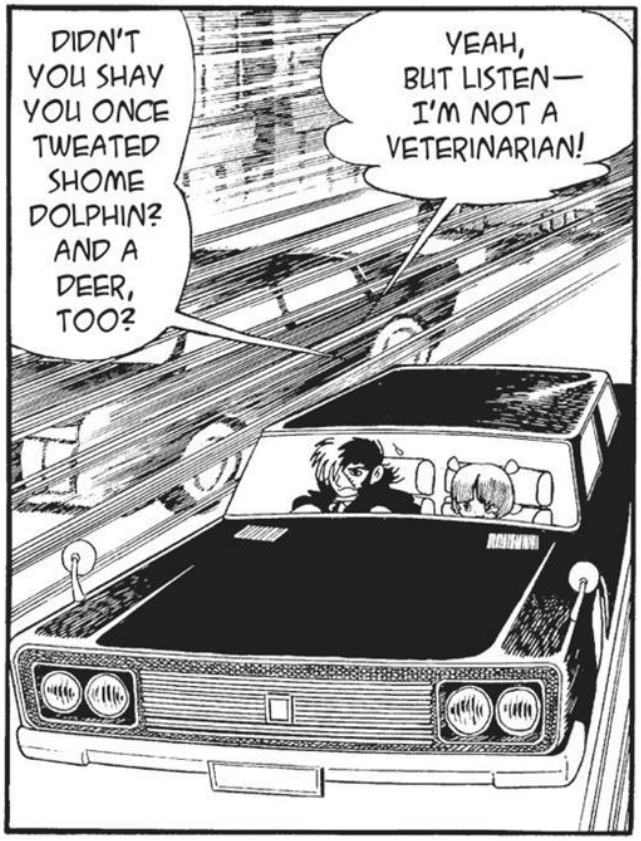
BAM
THUD
FOR-GET IT.
DOCTOR, HELP THE DOGGY!
WAAAH! IT'S GONNA DIE!!
I CAN'T TAKE CARE OF EVERY STRAY DOG IN THE STREET!
BUT IT'LL DIE!
I SAID, FORGET IT!

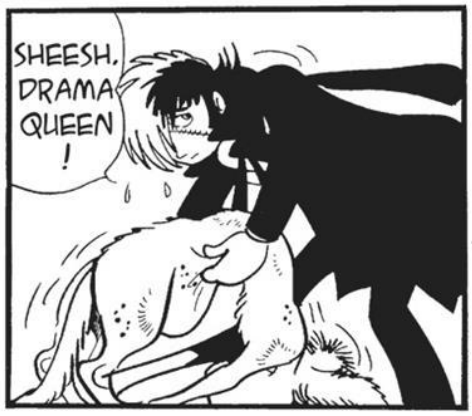
PIPE DOWN, WILL YA?

HEL~P...

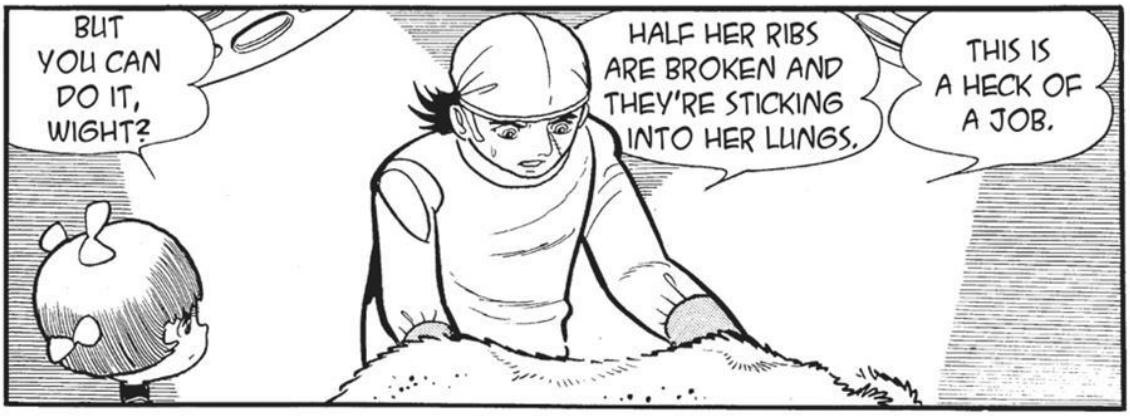

ER... SHE'S FINE...
IS SHE ALL RIGHT?

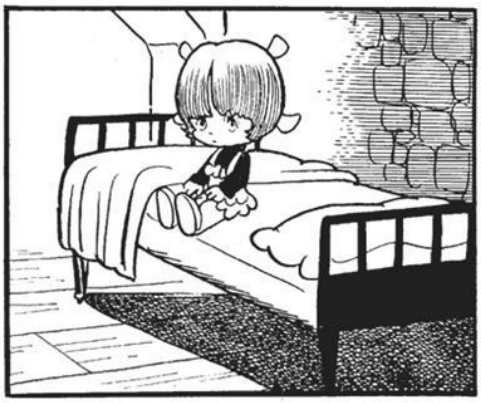
KILLER!


DIDN'T YOU SHAY YOU ONCE TWEATED SHOME DOLPHIN? AND A DEER, TOO?
YEAH, BUT LISTEN— I'M NOT A VETERINARIAN!

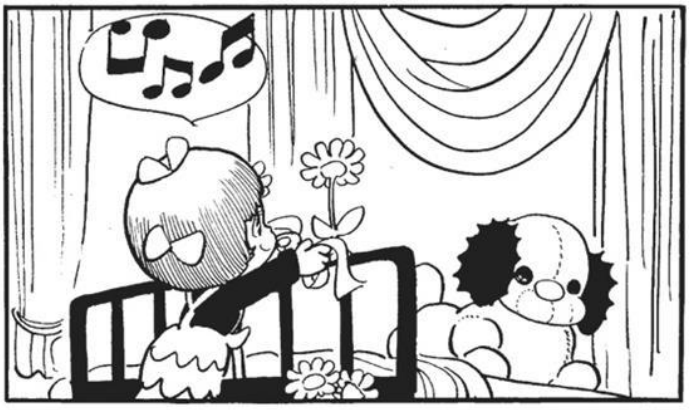

SHEESH. DRAMA QUEEN !

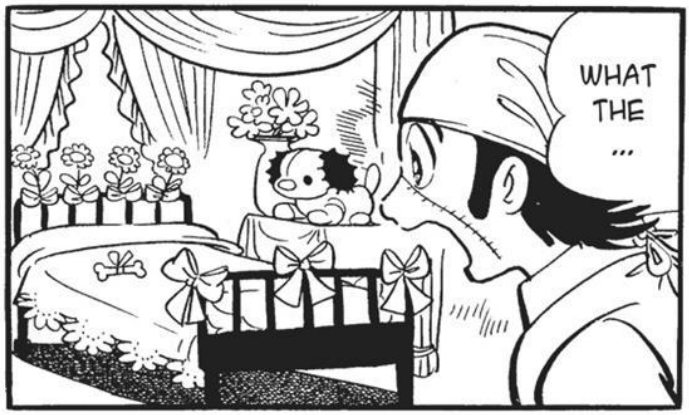
AND KNOWS HOW THE DOGGY FEELS!
PINOKO WOULDN'T BE HERE IF NOT FOR DOCTOR


BUT YOU CAN DO IT, WIGHT?
HALF HER RIBS ARE BROKEN AND THEY'RE STICKING INTO HER LUNGS.
THIS IS A HECK OF A JOB.

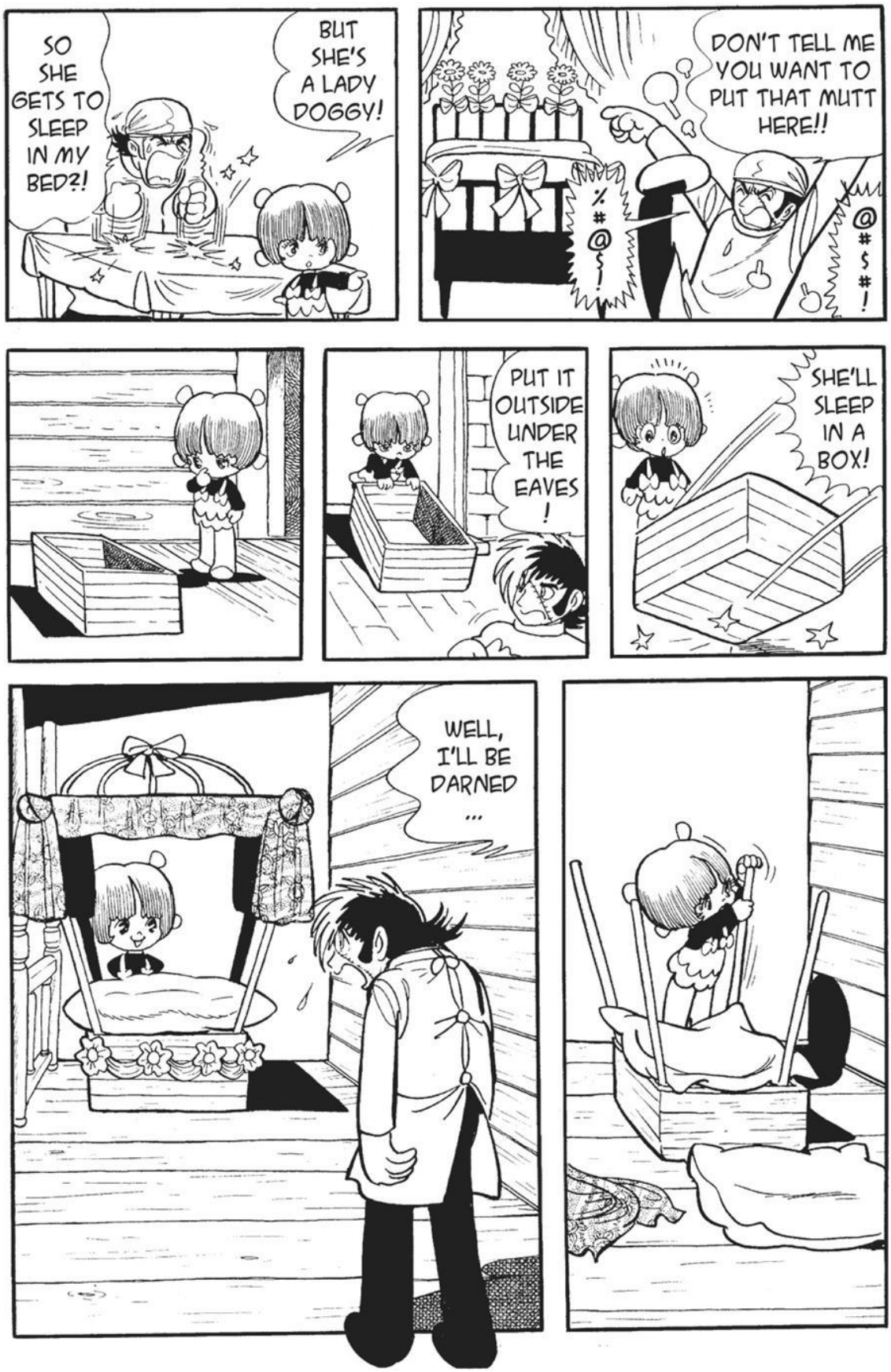


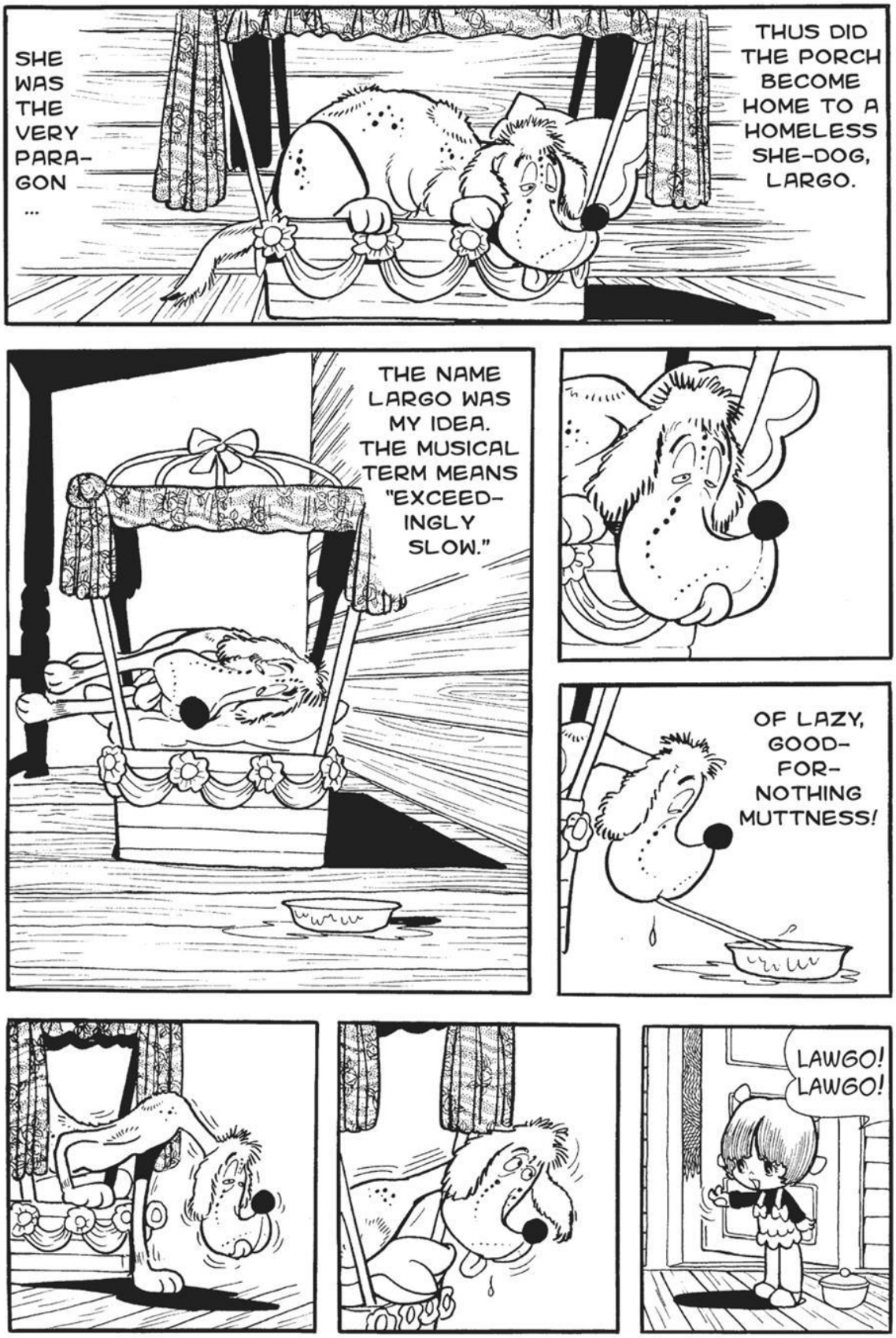
YOU WAIT OUTSIDE, PINOKO!

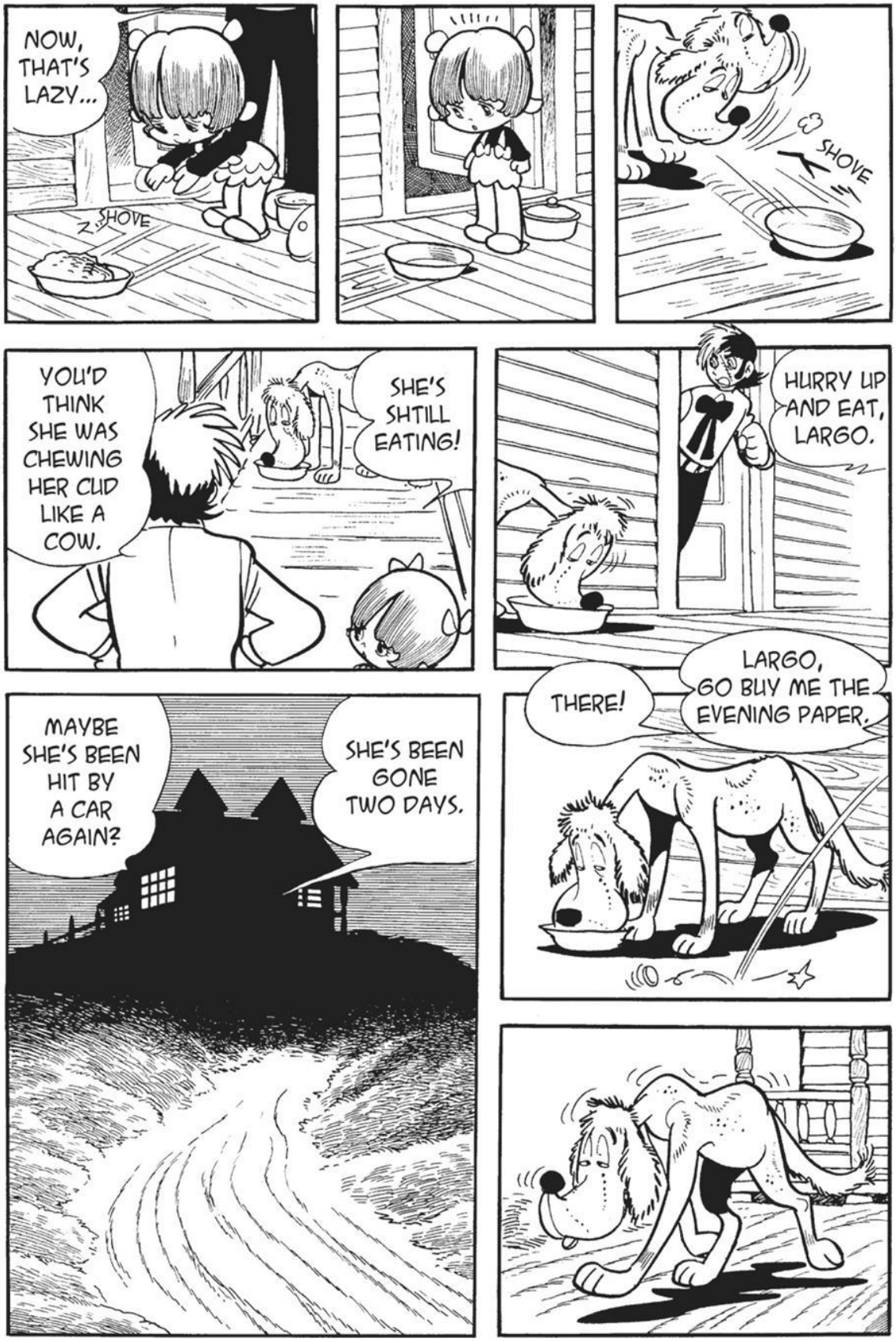



WHAT THE ...

LOOK AT THE PWET-TY DOG-GY! WOOF WOOF! A LAY-DEE DOGGY WITH A BLUE WIB-BON!


SO SHE GETS TO SLEEP IN MY BED?!
BUT SHE'S A LADY DOGGY!
DON'T TELL ME YOU WANT TO PUT THAT MUTT HERE!!
%#@$!
@#$#!
PUT IT OUTSIDE UNDER THE EAVES!
SHE'LL SLEEP IN A BOX!
WELL, I'LL BE DARNED ...

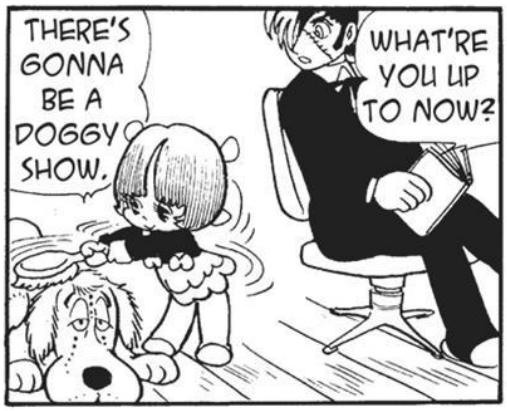

SHE WAS THE VERY PARA-GON ...
THUS DID THE PORCH BECOME HOME TO A HOMELESS SHE-DOG, LARGO.
THE NAME LARGO WAS MY IDEA. THE MUSICAL TERM MEANS "EXCEED-INGLY SLOW."
OF LAZY, GOOD-FOR-NOTHING MUTTNESS!
LAWGO! LAWGO!


NOW, THAT'S LAZY...
SHOVE
SHOVE
YOU'D THINK SHE WAS CHEWING HER CUD LIKE A COW.
SHE'S SHTILL EATING!
HURRY UP AND EAT, LARGO.
LARGO, GO BUY ME THE EVENING PAPER.
THERE!
MAYBE SHE'S BEEN HIT BY A CAR AGAIN?
SHE'S BEEN GONE TWO DAYS.

IT'S TWO DAYS OLD!!
AND SHE'S COVERED IN MUD.

SHE HAS THE PAPER!
LARGO'S BACK?!

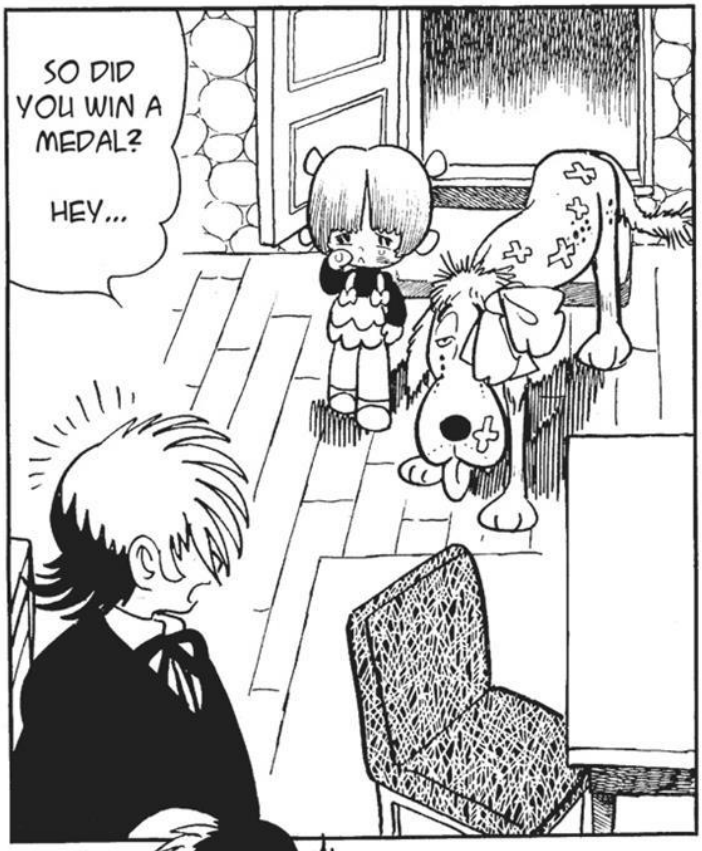
DON'T WOWWY!
A DOG SHOW? A FEW RIBBONS WON'T MAKE THAT MUTT PRESENTABLE.


THERE'S GONNA BE A DOGGY SHOW.
WHAT'RE YOU UP TO NOW?

CREAAAK
キーー

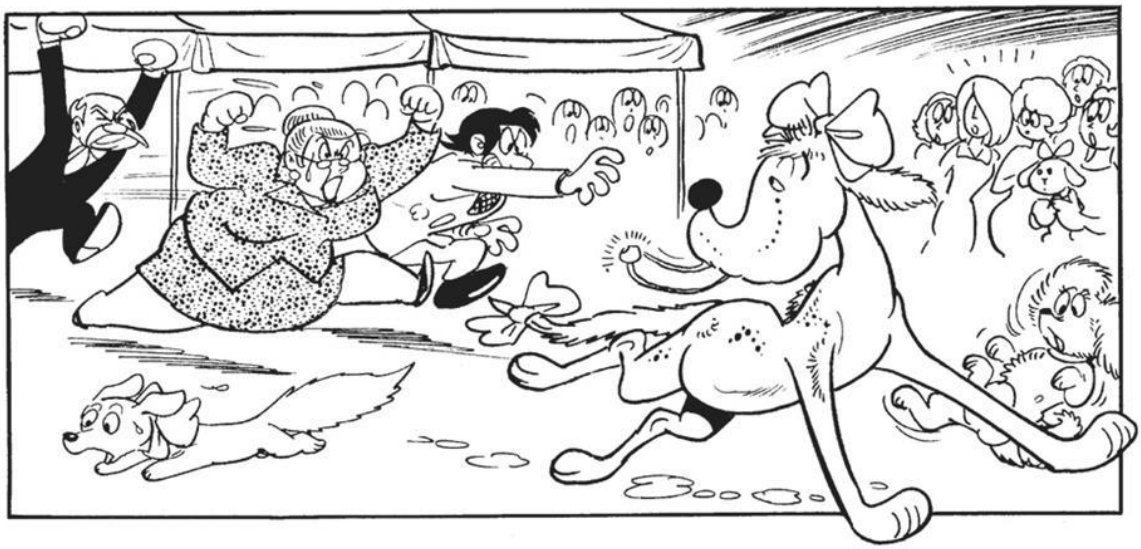
MAYBE WE WON'T WIN FIWST PWIZE, BUT WE'RE TIGHT FOR FIRD!
LET'S GO!

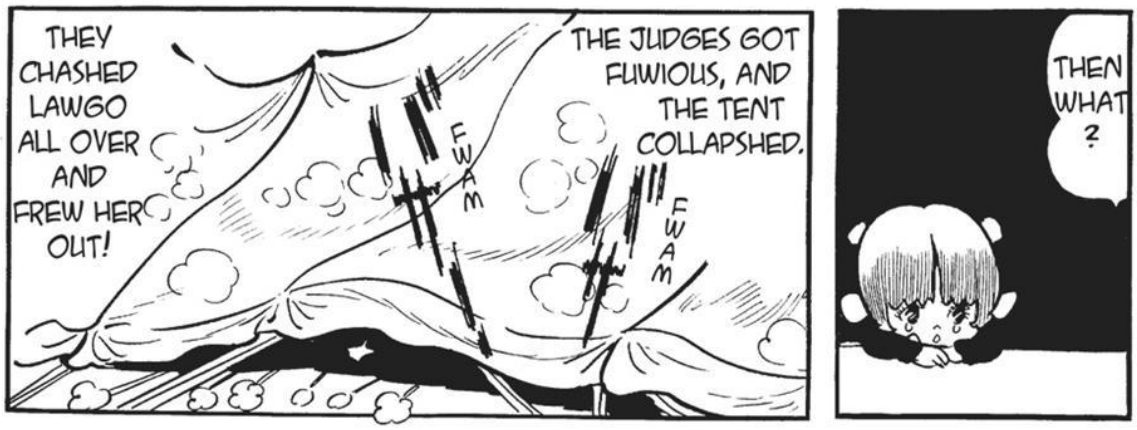
WAAAAH!


SO DID YOU WIN A MEDAL?
HEY...

STOP CRYING AND TELL ME WHAT HAPPENED.

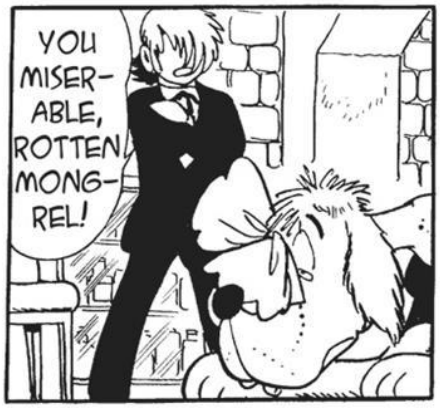
SHE GWABBED A NECKLESH FWOM A LADY JUDGE...
WHAT? LARGO STOLE A JEWEL AT THE CONTEST?



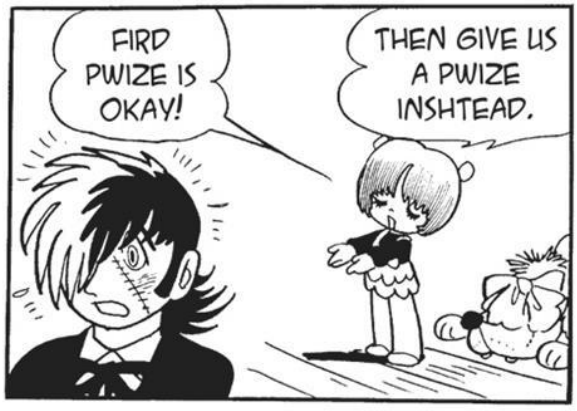

THEY CHASHED LAWGO ALL OVER AND FREW HER OUT!
FWAM
THE JUDGES GOT FUWIOUS, AND THE TENT COLLAPSHED.
FWAM
THEN WHAT ?

OH YEAH, SURE!

BUT WE'D HAVE WON, WIGHT?

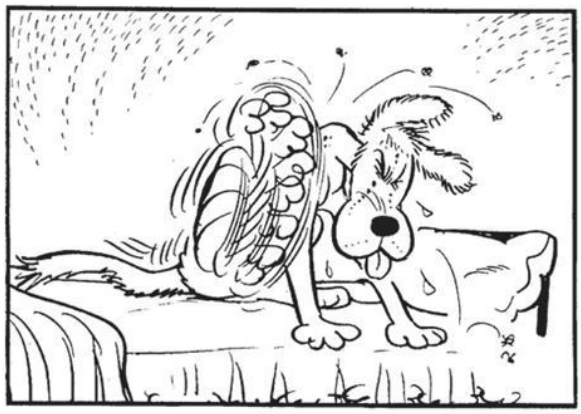

YOU MISER-ABLE, ROTTEN MONG-REL!

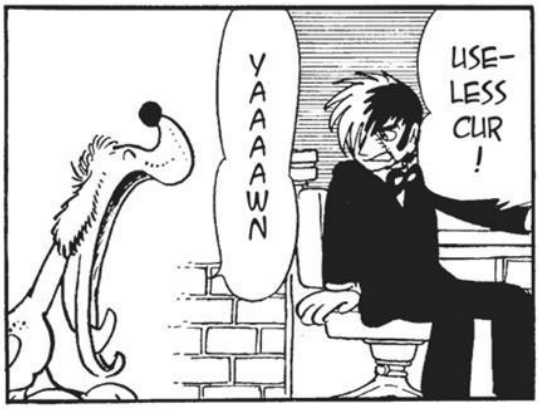
GIMME A BREAK ...
AWARDING LARGO THIRD PRIZE!
GOOD JOB, LAWGO!


FIRD PWIZE IS OKAY!
THEN GIVE US A PWIZE INSHTEAD.

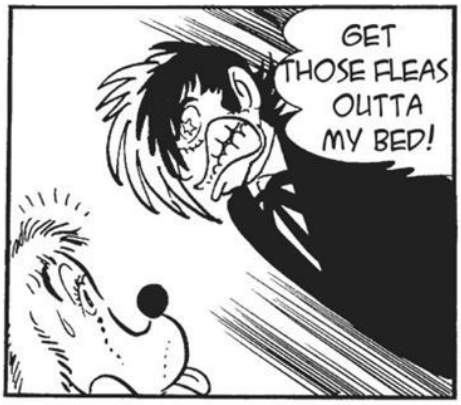
POOR LAWGO! IT ISN'T FAAAIR !
WHY DO I HAVE TO GIVE OUT A PRIZE?

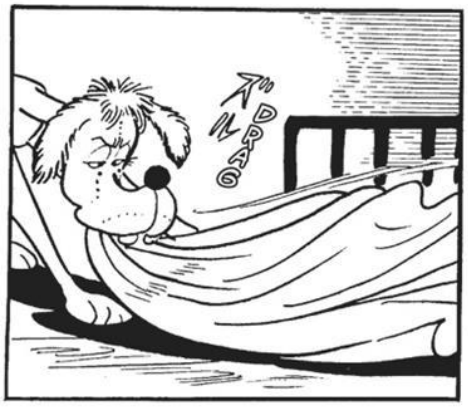
IN HUMANS, SHOPLIFTERS ARE OFTEN FEMALE. PERHAPS LARGO HAS A THIEVING STREAK BECAUSE SHE'S FEMALE?




USE-LESS CUR!
YAAAAAWN

FLAP
FLAP


GET THOSE FLEAS OUTTA MY BED!


DOOG

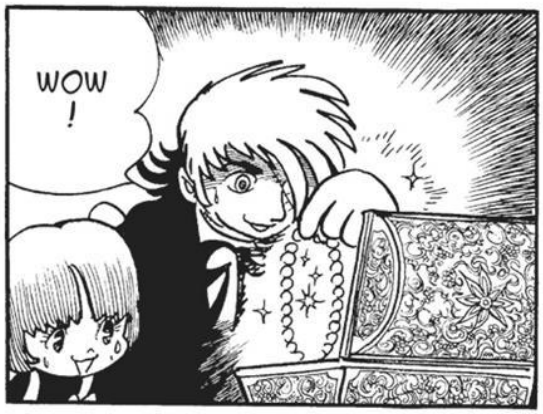
ボリ
SCRATCH
ボリ
ボリボリボリ

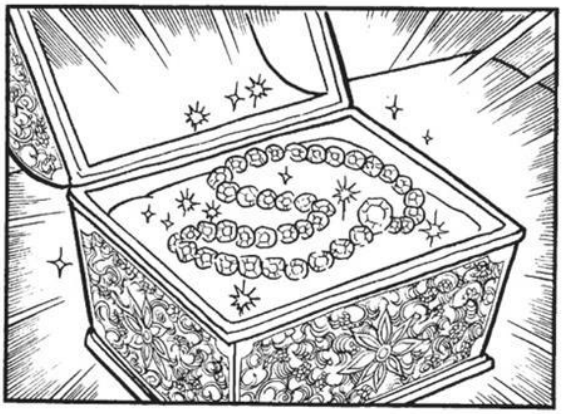
UNH !
FLAP

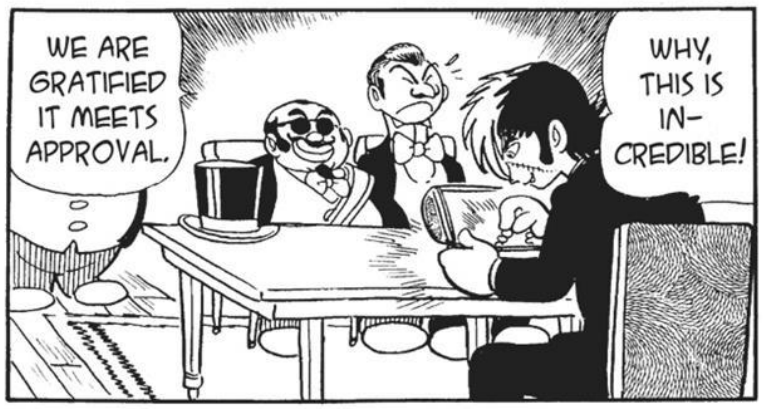
WE HEREBY PRESENT TOKEN OF PRESIDENT'S APPRECIATION.

IF YOU WOULD ...

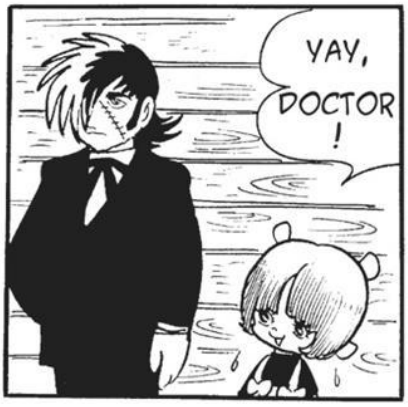
IN RESPONSE TO SUPERLATIVE SERVICE TO OUR NATION IN SAVING LIFE OF PRESIDENT...
I AM AMBASSADOR OF REPUBLIC OF CAINAN.


WOW !

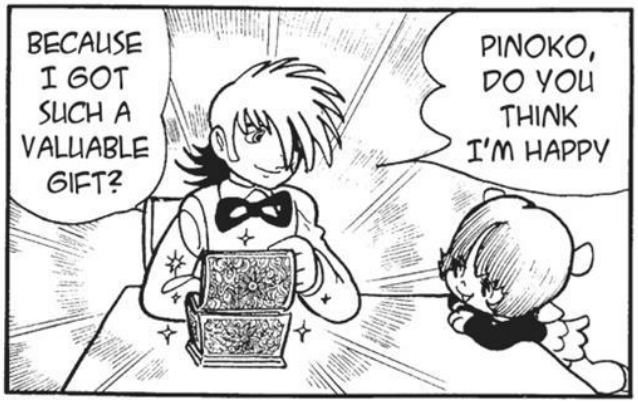



WE ARE GRATIFIED IT MEETS APPROVAL.
WHY, THIS IS IN-CREDIBLE!

STARE

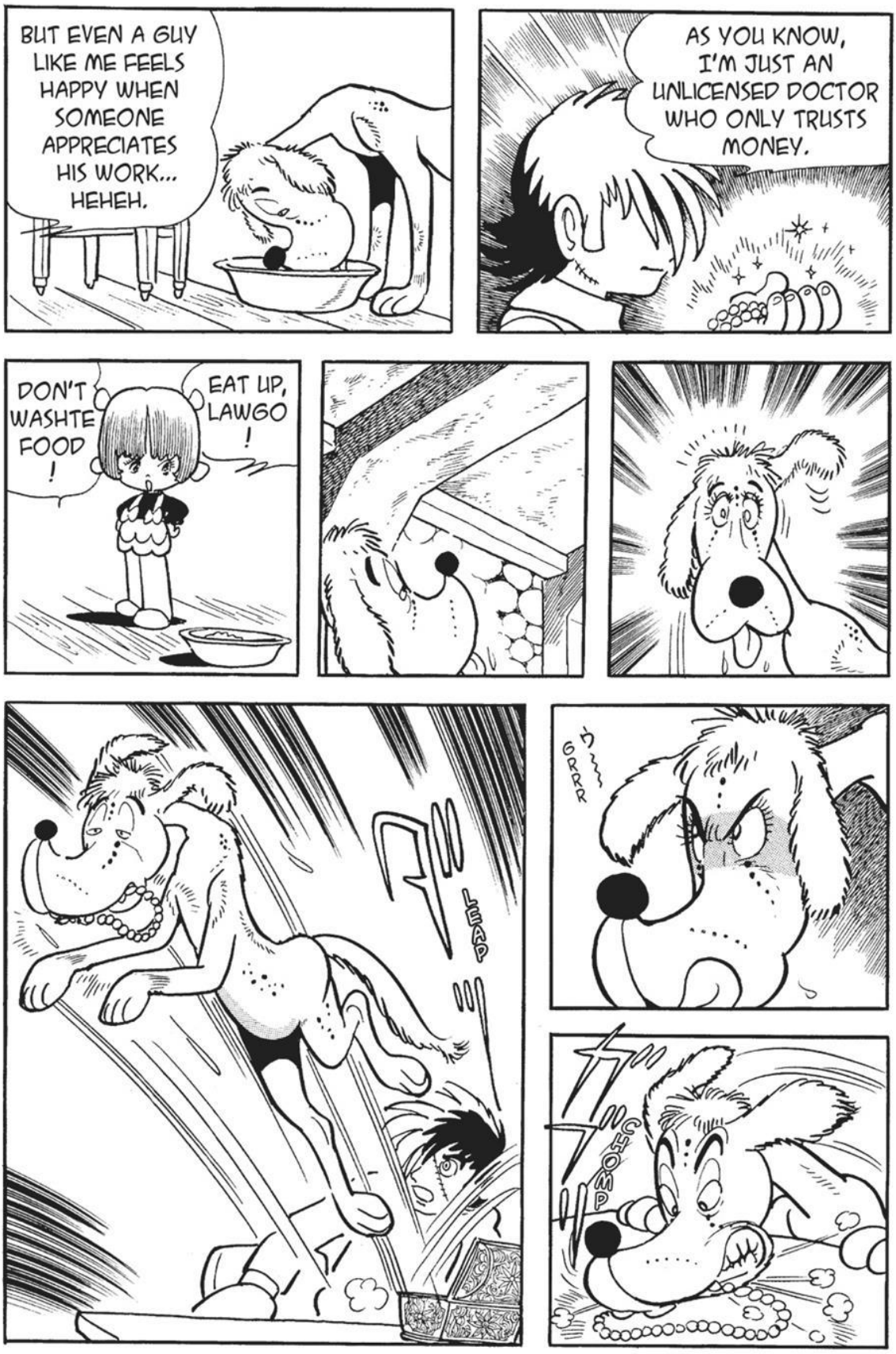

YAY, DOCTOR!

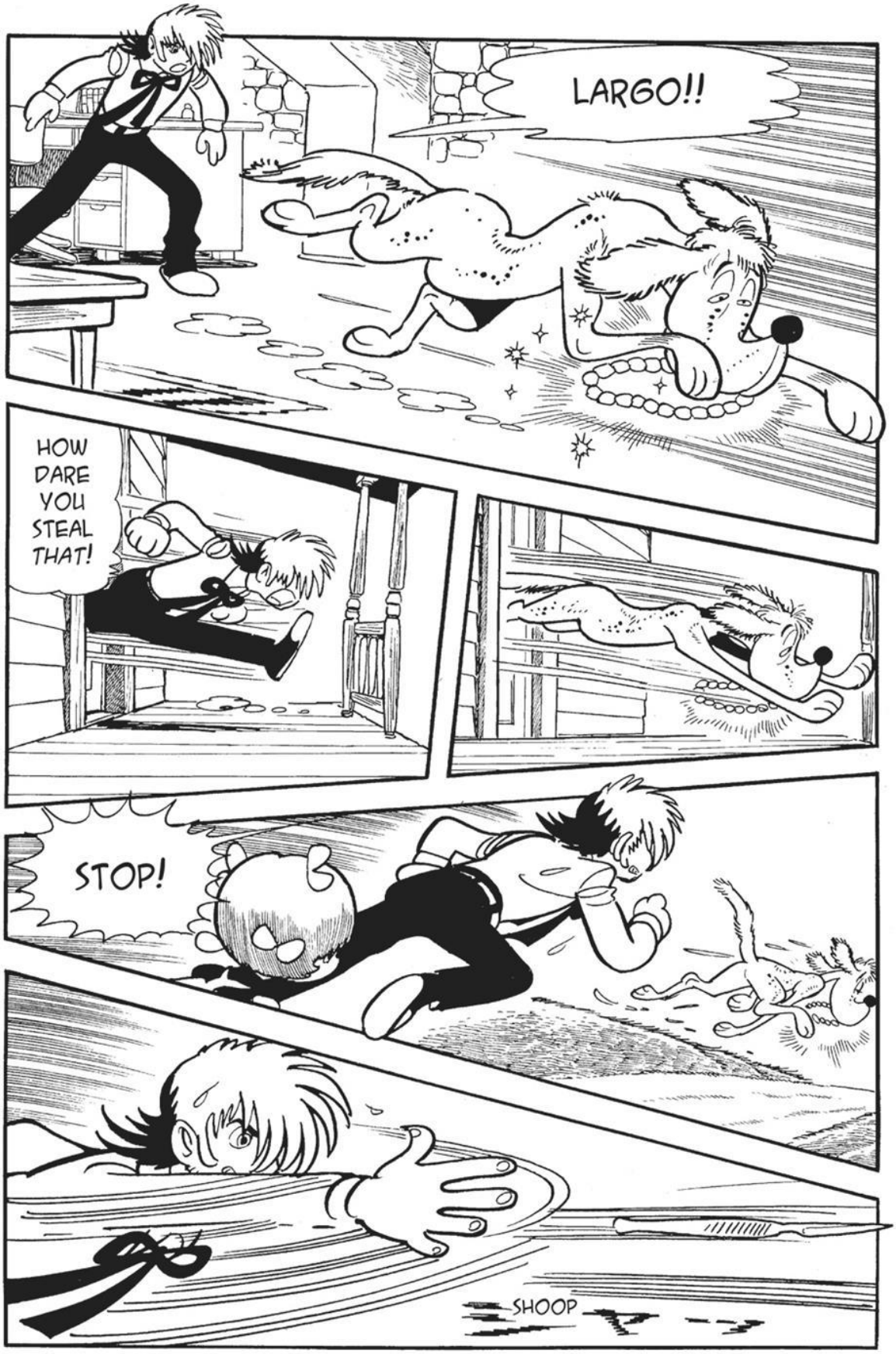
MY REGARDS TO THE PRESI-DENT.

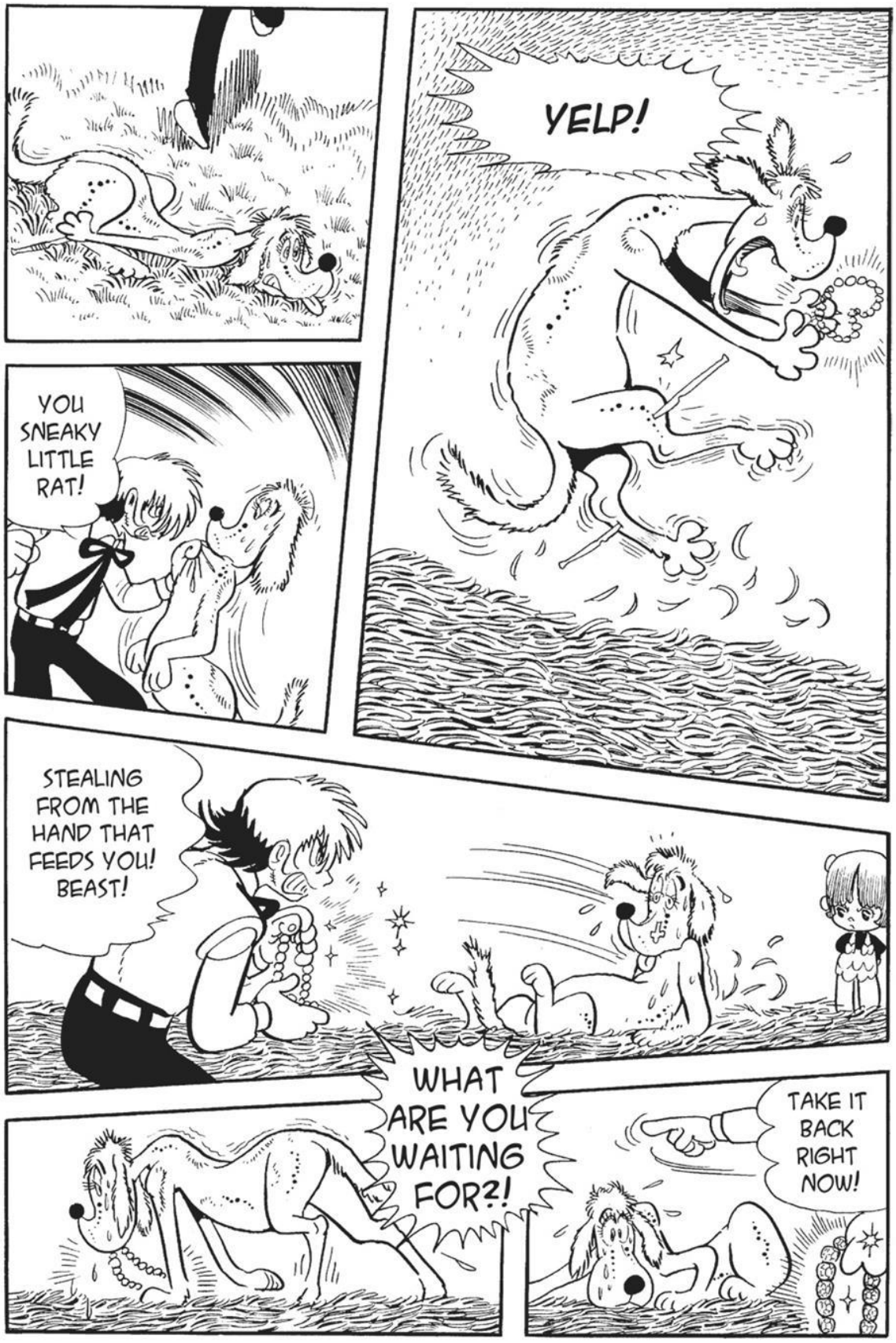

BECAUSE I GOT SUCH A VALUABLE GIFT?
PINOKO, DO YOU THINK I'M HAPPY

BUT I'M SMILING, AMN'T I?

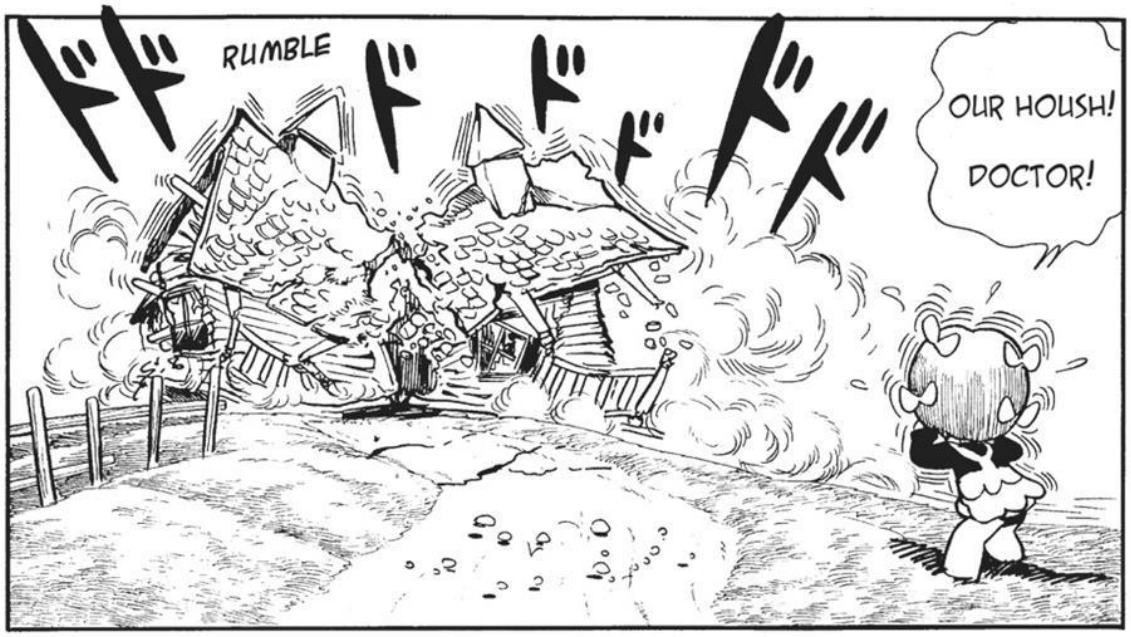
THAT'S NOT WHAT I FINK.

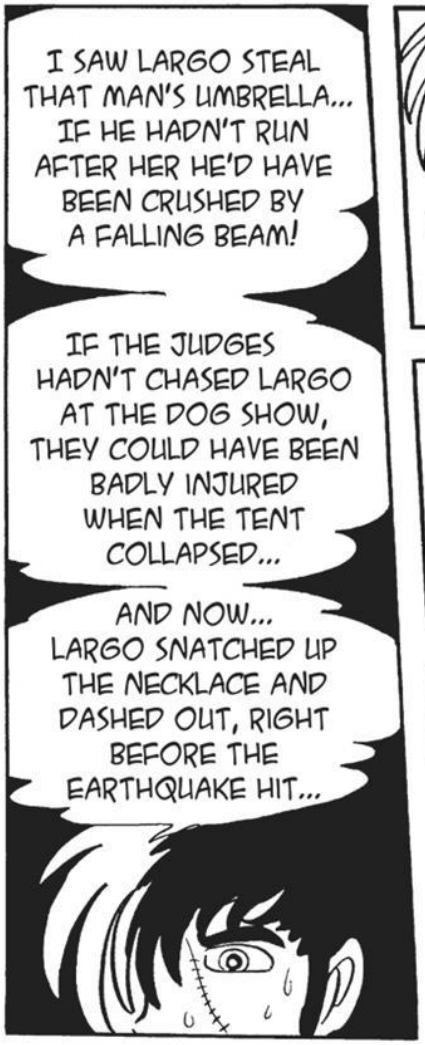

BUT EVEN A GUY LIKE ME FEELS HAPPY WHEN SOMEONE APPRECIATES HIS WORK... HEHEH.
AS YOU KNOW, I'M JUST AN UNLICENSED DOCTOR WHO ONLY TRUSTS MONEY.
DON'T WASHTE FOOD !
EAT UP, LAWGO !
LEAP
GRRR
CHOMP

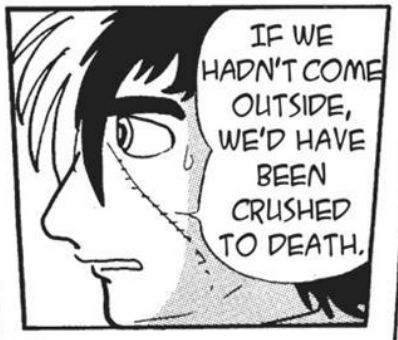

LARGO!!
HOW DARE YOU STEAL THAT!
STOP!
SHOOP


YELP!
YOU SNEAKY LITTLE RAT!
STEALING FROM THE HAND THAT FEEDS YOU! BEAST!
WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?!
TAKE IT BACK RIGHT NOW!

TAKE IT BACK OR I WON'T LOVE YOU ANYMORE!
SHAKE
UNREAL ...
A BIG ONE!!
KRAK
HEY !!
IT'S AN EARTH-QUAKE !!


RUMBLE
OUR HOUSH!
DOCTOR!

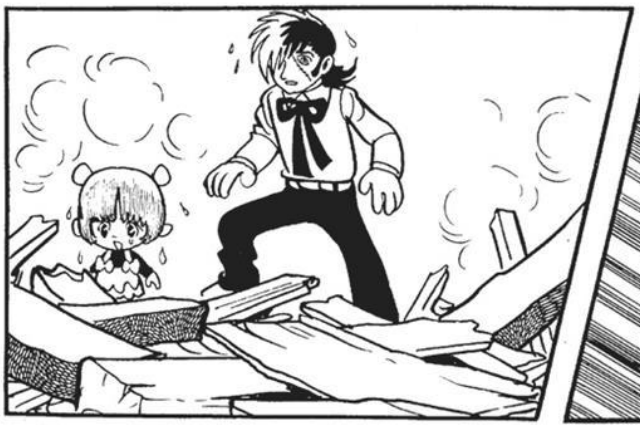

I SAW LARGO STEAL THAT MAN'S UMBRELLA... IF HE HADN'T RUN AFTER HER HE'D HAVE BEEN CRUSHED BY A FALLING BEAM!
IF THE JUDGES HADN'T CHASED LARGO AT THE DOG SHOW, THEY COULD HAVE BEEN BADLY INJURED WHEN THE TENT COLLAPSED...
AND NOW... LARGO SNATCHED UP THE NECKLACE AND DASHED OUT, RIGHT BEFORE THE EARTHQUAKE HIT...


IF WE HADN'T COME OUTSIDE, WE'D HAVE BEEN CRUSHED TO DEATH.

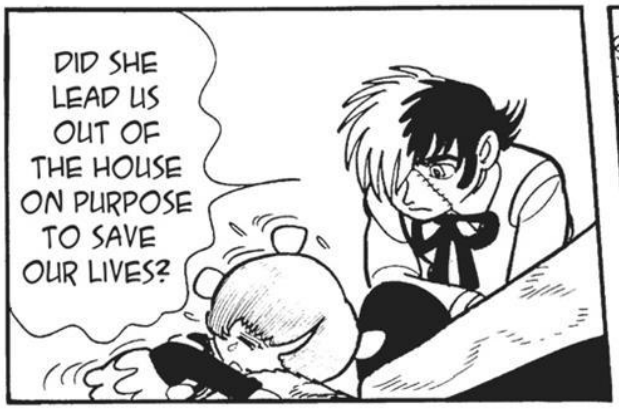
WE SHURVIVED BECAUSE WE CAME AFTER LAWGO!

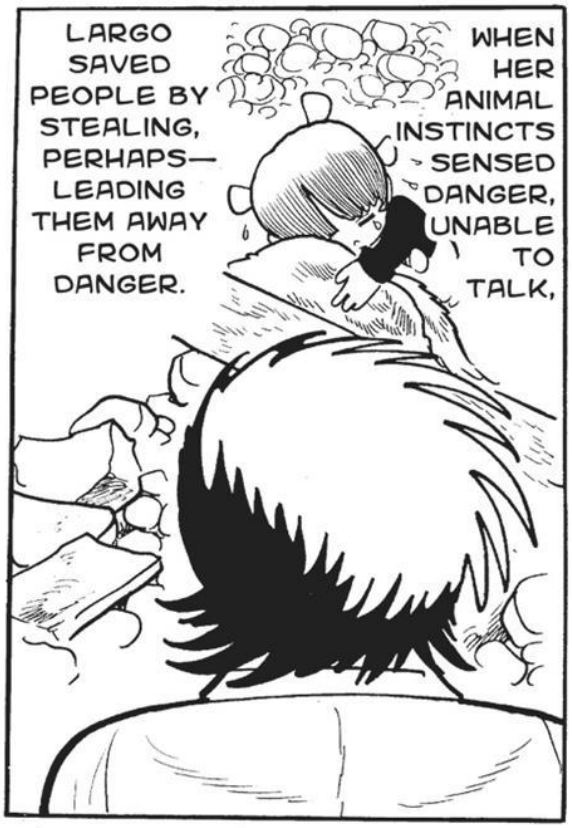
COME TO THINK OF IT...

RUMBLE
DZSHHH

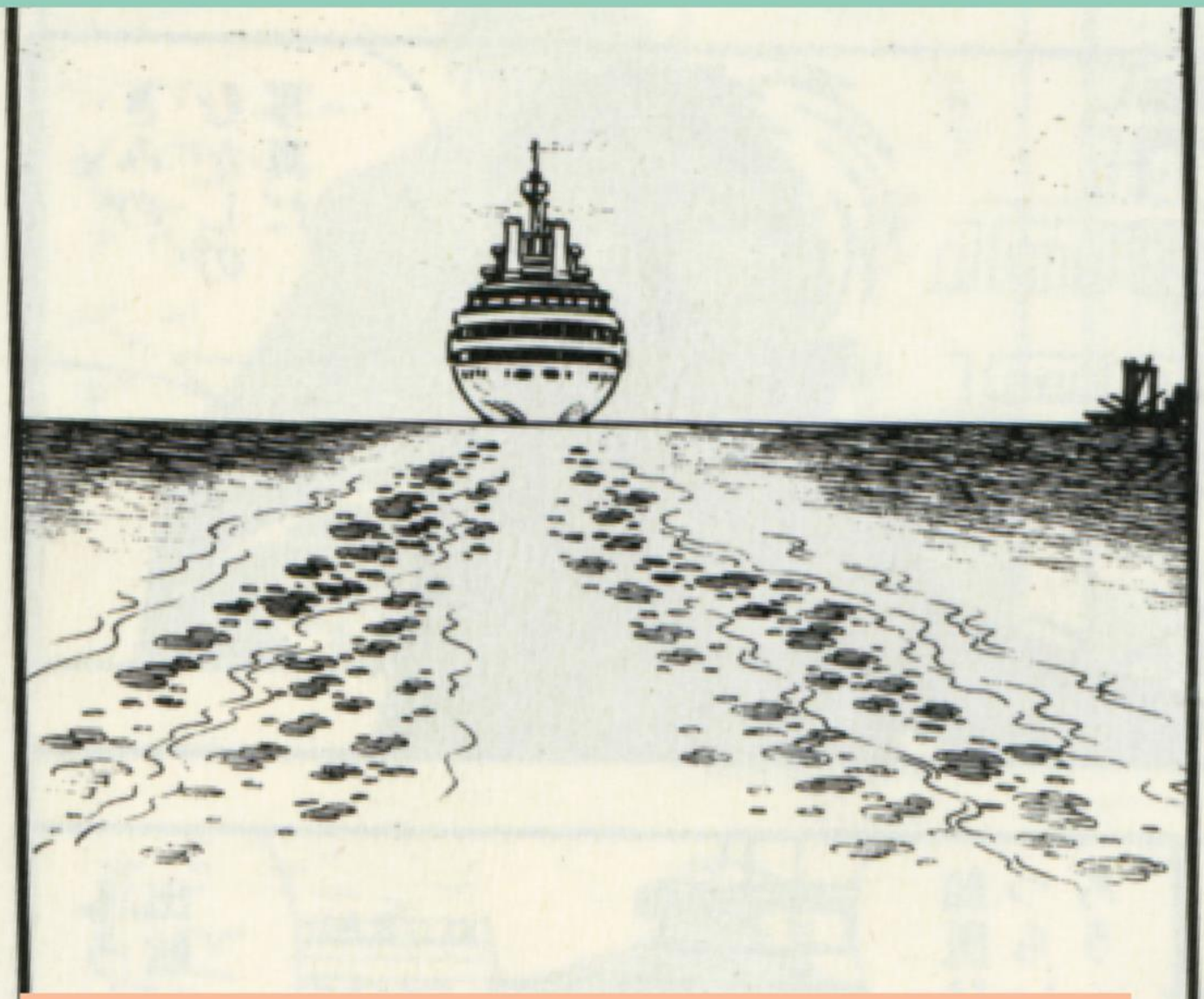


LARGO!!


DID SHE LEAD US OUT OF THE HOUSE ON PURPOSE TO SAVE OUR LIVES?


LARGO SAVED PEOPLE BY STEALING, PERHAPS— LEADING THEM AWAY FROM DANGER.
WHEN HER ANIMAL INSTINCTS SENSED DANGER, UNABLE TO TALK,

// A PEERLESS MEDICAL DRAMA //



From the creator of *Astro Boy* and *Kimba* comes the epochal work that has been the God of Manga's most popular series among adult readers in Japan and most anticipated stateside release in recent years. *Black Jack* chronicles the travails of an enigmatic surgeon-for-hire who is more good than he pretends to be.

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